

HEIDELBERG-SLATEDALE LUTHERAN PARISH NEWSLETTER

SCHEDULED SUPPLY PASTORS:

December 2 - Holy Trinity- The Rev. Joseph Scholtes
December 9 - Both – The Rev. John Deisinger
December 16 - Holy Trinity – Still working on
December 23 - Both – The Rev. Joseph Scholtes
December 24 - Holy Trinity – The Rev. Rashion Santiago (10:00 pm)
December 30 - Holy Trinity – The Rev. Franklin S. Stinner



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AT HEIDELBERG. The Union Christmas Eve Service will be held on Monday, December 24. **The worship service will begin at 7:00 p.m.** Special inspirational music will be provided, traditional scripture lessons will be read, and the service will culminate with the candle lighting. In addition, there will also be a **Union Christmas Eve 11:00 p.m. service with communion.** All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE AT HOLY TRINITY

The traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight service **will start with a musical prelude; followed by a worship service commencing at 10:00 p.m.** with Supply Pastor, the Rev. Rashion Santiago, special music by the choir, continuous-flow communion and a candle lighting service.

HEIDELBERG UNION FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. Sunday, Dec. 16, at 11:00 a.m. in the Church Sanctuary. Come one and all to see our youth perform in the Christmas program.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS RECITATION PROGRAM At the Lehigh Furnace Sunday School, the children will present their songs and recitations on December 23rd at 9:30 AM. Everyone is welcome.

LENTEN SCHEDULE AT HEIDELBERG UNION CHURCH All are invited to join us at Heidelberg Union Church on March 6 at 7:00 p.m. for the Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary for a time of repentance, ashes and communion.

Bear Creek Camp, 3601 Bear Creek Blvd, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702, Phone: 570-472-3741, Fax: 570-472-3742, bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org: 7-12TH GRADE WINTER CAMP, January 11-13, 2019, 4-8TH GRADE WINTER CAMP, January 25-27, 2019.

The Slatington Public Library has a new project and is collecting the following items: colored markers (fine or broad tip), construction paper, poster board, envelopes (small & business size), padded envelopes (for shipping books & DVDs), packing tape, copy paper (white & color), colored card stock, stamps, paper clips (all sizes), 18 gal. plastic totes(with lids), pens (blue & black), & pencils. Items can be dropped off during business hours or call 610-767-6461 for pickup. More info. at slatlib@ptd.net.

NEPA SYNOD NEWSLETTERS : December 2018 & January 2019- download at www.godslove.org (4 pages)

NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILLS? Contact LIHEAP at 610-821-6509 for more information.

**UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP ANY MORE DUE TO AGE OR INFIRMITY?
IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED, DON'T FORGET TO GIVE THE ADMITTING PERSONNEL YOUR
CHURCH NUMBER: HEIDELBERG – 239, HOLY TRINITY – 248.
CONTACT YOUR PARISH SECRETARY IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HOSPITAL OR HOME VISIT OR
WISH TO RECEIVE HOME COMMUNION.**

CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS:

		Gary R. Dise	FEB.	3
		Carol Polkowski		5
Chad Gross	JAN	Nancy Maurer		6
David Lear		Matthew Thompson		8
Darlene Altrichter	12	Jan Krawchuk		8
Ruth Kehm	13	Sophia Lear		10
Sean Polkowski	13	Jessica Lear		10
Clarissa Gross	15	Laura Danner		11
Elizabeth Gardner	15	Beth Sell		11
		Michael Schaffer		17
Nicholas Roth	16	Ashley Bartholomew		18
Mariah Fegely	18	Brenda Fetterolf		19
Kelly Sue Wanamaker	23	Madilyn Riegel		19
		Christina Meitzler		21
James Graver	26	Aaron Dise		23
Bryan Kehm	27	Diane Krause		25
Lucas Dise	27	Michelle Dise		26
Elinore Dorshimer	28	Wayne Roth		27
Delores Cunfer	31	Bruce Altrichter		27



BAPTISM:

11/18-HT Blake Ophelia Fragassi, daughter of Alexis Corvino & Albert Fragassi
by Rev. Norman Dresher

NEW MEMBERS: Confirmation Class

11/4-H Elijah Behler and Maya Sukanick



Deadline for all information & reports for the
2018 congregational reports is
January 29, 2019.

NEWSLETTER FOR THE MONTHS OF
AND



HEIDELBERG'S NEWS

SPECIAL SERVICES:

Union Faith Formation Program	December 16 at 11:00 AM
Holy Communion	December 23 at 11:00 AM
Union Christmas Eve Service	December 24 at 7:00 PM
Christmas Eve Service - Holy Communion	December 24 at 11:00 PM
Christmas Carol Sing-a-long	December 30 at 11:00 AM
Holy Communion	1/6, 2/3, 3/3 at 11:00 AM
Union Ash Wednesday Worship Service	March 6 at 7:00 PM

MEETINGS :

5K Planning	2 nd Tuesdays	6:00 pm (FH-B)
Breakfast (Schnecksville Diner)	Wednesdays	7:30 am (SD)
Handbell Rehearsals	Thursdays	7:00 pm* (FH-B)
HARP	12/4, 1/8, 2/5	11:00 am (FH-A)
Staff	Dec. 10	11:30 am (E)
Soup Kitchen Drop-Off	12/10, 1/7, 2/11	6:00 pm (FH-A)
Parish (at Heidelberg)	Dec. 10	7:00 pm (FH-A)
Lutheran Council	12/11, 1/8, 2/12	7:00 pm (FH-A)
Christmas Caroling	Dec. 15	1:00 pm (E)
Kitchen Meeting	Dec. 17	10:00 am (FH-A)
Detinseling	Jan. 6	12:00 pm (S)
Staff	Jan. 14	9:00 am (FH-A)
Women of Faith	Jan. 28	1:00 pm (FH-A)
Union Worship & Music	Jan. 28	6:00 pm
Prayer Chain	Jan. 28	6:00 pm (L)
Joint Council/Consistory	Jan. 28	7:00 pm (FH-A)
Congregational Dinner Meeting	Feb. 10	12:30 pm (FH-AB)

*Through 12/13, resume 1/24

E=Elsewhere, FH-A=Fellowship Hall (Kitchen Side), FH-B=Fellowship Hall (Bathroom side), FH-AB=Entire Fellowship Hall, HT=Holy Trinity, L=Library, S=Sanctuary, SD=Schnecksville Diner

We had our **Congregational Meeting** on November 18th, 2018. Just a quick recap for everyone: The 2019 proposed budgets for Heidelberg Lutheran and Heidelberg Union were approved. Linda Heil was nominated to serve a 3-year term on Heidelberg Lutheran Council starting 2019. For 2019, we **need 3 council members**. There are big decisions to be made and we could use your input. Please consider becoming a council member. If you have any questions of what this entails, please feel free to reach out to any of the current council members.

GREETERS AND LAY READERS ARE NEEDED. Sign-up sheets are located in the narthex. Copies of Celebrates are available for the readers. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer.

The open **ANNUAL MEETING OF HEIDELBERG UNION CHURCH** will take place on Monday, January 28, at 7 PM. This meeting is an **invitation to all Church organizations** to join the Council/Consistory members in discussing events of the past year, the goals and plans for the new year and to identify areas where an organization needs support and assistance from Council/Consistory. It's a time to share the annual reporting of your efforts so all can appreciate what you do for the Congregations and the Community. C/C requests the opportunity to hear representatives from Choirs, Organist, Faith Formation, Youth Group, Soup Kitchen, Cemetery, Sexton, WOW, Women of Faith, Altar Guild, Secretary/Treasurer of Bequests and Kitchen Committee.

Heidelberg Church is proud of folks like you that make the Church a foundation of our lives.

We thank you.

Heidelberg Union Church Council/Consistory (C/C)

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

The Annual Congregational Dinner Meeting at Heidelberg will be held on February 10, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. **Absolute deadline** to submit information is January 29, 2019. Check upcoming bulletins for the agenda

If **inclement weather** results in the need to **cancel worship services** and/or Sunday School, tune in to WFMZ TV Channel 69 or call any Council member.

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS –

To make a contribution to the church,
mail checks to:

Due to a fire hazard and allergies to live **Christmas trees**, an artificial tree has been purchased for our sanctuary. This will allow more of our Heidelberg family to worship together this Christmas season. Thank you to the Women of Faith for making this possible!

An Angel Prayer Tree will be in the sanctuary during the Advent season. *“Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.” - James 5: 13.* Please note a special concern on a paper angel to be hung on the tree. Pastor Karen will lift up your prayer during a service in January.



THE CHRISTMAS BASKETS will be packed on Friday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m. Boxes will be placed in the narthex and hallway for non-perishable food items for the baskets. There will be an exit offering on December 9th to purchase items for needy families for the Christmas holiday. We need volunteers to help pack the baskets and also anyone interested in helping with the shopping. Please contact Denise Snyder if you can help in any way.

ALTAR FLOWER & BULLETIN SPONSOR CHARTS The Lutheran & UCC altar flower & bulletin sponsor charts for 2019 have been placed in the narthex. If you would like to sponsor flowers and/or bulletins for a specific Sunday, please sign the chart or charts, or you may contact an altar guild member. You will be contacted before your sponsor date. The cost to sponsor the altar flowers is \$25, and the cost to sponsor the bulletins is \$10.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING We will be going Christmas Caroling to our homebound members on Saturday, December 15th. We will meet at the church at 1:00 p.m. We will return to the church around 5:30-6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. If you have any questions, contact Sheri Hausman.

Come one, come all, to the Heidelberg Concert Hand bell Christmas Concert.

Where: Union Lutheran Church, 5500 PA Route, Schnecksville.

When: Sunday, December 16 @ 3 pm



Notice: Bank requirement. When paying for flowers by check, either altar flowers or seasonal flowers, all checks **must** be made payable to **Heidelberg Union Altar Guild**. The bank will only accept checks payable to the name on the Altar Guild account. Betty Krause, Treasurer

GIFT CARDS - Thank you to all who ordered gift cards throughout 2018. Because of your purchases, we're on track to add around \$1,700 to Heidelberg Union's joint account. This program will continue the second Sunday in 2019 and, with your ongoing support, we'll hopefully be able to increase the number of dollars contributed to Heidelberg's joint account and get back to rebates of around \$2,500! So, start planning now for purchases to cover all your needs – birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc. etc.! If you have any questions, contact either Sheri Hausman or Barb Weaver.

HOLD THE 2019 VITALITY DAY SESSION DATES - If you are interested in attending the following remaining Vitality Day Sessions being held in 2019 with Michael Piazza, please save these dates: March 23rd - Craft Church Evangelism; and May 18th - Vintage Church Renewal. All sessions are held at Jordan UCC Church, Walbert Avenue, Allentown, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. There is no cost except for lunch which is \$15 per person. Registration is required, so see a Consistory or Council member if you are interested.

SOUP KITCHEN

Nov. 13th

We served 143 men and women. We served chili, rice, garden salad, pineapple, rolls and dessert. Thanks to those who made pumpkin desserts. The faithful volunteers included Eleanor and Ron Klevenhagen, Robin Koch, Barbara Mathias and Linda Hausamann. Thank you to members who donated food items for the soup kitchen thanksgiving dinner. I bought 2 turkeys with money Dawn and Ed Fisher donated. Robin Koch and I donated a turkey.

Next Soup kitchen is Dec 11th; requesting cookies to be delivered to fellowship hall between 6-7pm on Dec 10th.
Thank you and God Bless Linda

FELLOWSHIP HALL NEWS

ATTENTION ALL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS: Before scheduling any event in the Fellowship Hall, please contact Cindy Miller to confirm availability. Thank you for your cooperation.

HARP- Heidelberg Area Retired People will meet January 8, 2019 at 11 a.m. for an afternoon of games. Bring your favorite game or cards to share and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with friends. We'll share a covered dish and dessert. Everyone is invited, we always have a good time. See you in the New Year.

HARP will meet February 5, 2019 at 11a.m. for BINGO. Diane our favorite caller will be there to make the afternoon complete. Don't forget, bring 2 one-dollar gifts, wrapped, to make it a surprise. We'll share our covered dish and desserts. Bring a friend or two and hope it doesn't snow.

Heidelberg Church's Trunk or Treat - We had a very successful Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 28th, at Heidelberg Church. Despite the dreary weather, we had a great turnout. There were 17 participants with trunks and we had a lot of kids and adults attend. Check out our church Facebook/website for pictures. The food was great and no one went away hungry. Thank you to all who helped make this outreach event a success! The winners of the Trunk or Treat vehicles were The Bickert Family's Candyland trunk and Carol and Dan Olesh Family's Skeleton Garage. This year we had an impromptu Decorating Pumpkin Contest and all 11 entries were winners.

WOMEN OF FAITH (W.O.F.) - There is no meeting in December. The next meeting will be January 28th at 1:00 p.m. It will be a "bring your favorite game" meeting.

FAITH FORMATION/SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our **Faith Formation Christmas Program** will be held on Sunday, December 16th at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Come enjoy our youth as they present their program.

THANK YOU for supporting our annual Christmas Bake Sale & Hot Dog Lunch.



For more information concerning Faith Formation and/or youth events, check upcoming bulletins or contact your leaders.

The information deadline for the next Heidelberg Lutheran newsletter is February 15, 2019.

HOLY TRINITY'S NEWS

THE CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION ON DECEMBER 24, 2018 IS SCHEDULED AT 10:00 PM WITH SUPPLY PASTOR, THE REV. RASHION SANTIAGO. ALL ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST.



OTHER SPECIAL SERVICES:

Holy Communion 1/6, 2/3, 3/3 at 10:45 am*PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE

MEETINGS:

Parish (at Heidelberg)	December 10	at 7:00 pm
LCW	Dec. 11	at 6:00 pm
LCW	Jan. 15 & Feb. 19	at 7:00 pm
Church Council	Jan. 22 & Feb. 26	at 7:00 pm

At the Annual Congregational Meeting held on November 25th, the 2019 budget was approved, the 2019 Church calendar was discussed and approved and will be available soon, Cindy Snyder & Traci Kaercher renewed for three-year terms, Mark Rau was elected for a two-year term, and Robert Snyder was elected for a three-year term. We still need 2 more council members.

**PLEASE NOTE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 6, 2019,
HOLY TRINITY WILL WORSHIP AT 10:45 AM**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS The deadline to submit information to your secretary is January 29, 2018.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY The 2019 contribution envelopes were distributed on Stewardship Sunday. Please remember to pick up your materials if you haven't done so already! If you have friends or family nearby and would be willing to deliver them, it would be greatly appreciated to help save on postage. Thank you!

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS To receive credit for 2018, checks payable to "Holy Trinity Lutheran Church" can be mailed to the church at PO Box 129, Slatedale PA 18079, or to the treasurer, Dianne Frantz to arrive no later than December 31, 2018.

SPECIAL THANKS:

- To all those who decorated the church for the Advent/Christmas season.
- To everyone who donated peas for the Food Bank's Thanksgiving & Christmas baskets.
- To everyone who contributed items for the Northern Lehigh Valley Mission District's Annual Ingathering.
- To Mark, Bob, Rick, Bill, Ron, Steve, and others for their work at keeping the grounds in good shape and fixing the things that needed repair.

Weather Closings - Service cancellations will be posted on our website (www.holytrinityslatedale.org) as well as on WFMZ-TV and Blue Ridge (BRC-TV 13) in the event of winter weather!

Thank Offering: \$220 was collected for the Thank Offering in November. Thank you so much for your generous donations! LCW added \$200 and the money was divided between a local person to assist with medical bills and a non-profit organization, Together We Rise, that supports children in foster care.

LCW Scrip Card Program: The Scrip Card program will continue in 2019. Thanks to your support, over \$1,700 was raised in 2018! Order forms are available in the narthex or a full list of retailers is available at www.shopwithscrip.com. Please see Traci Kaercher if you have any questions or special requests!

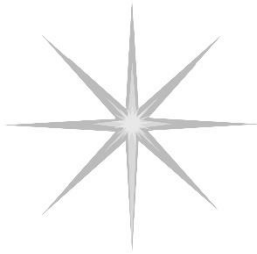
- January orders are due on Jan 6 with delivery on Jan 20.
- February orders are due on Feb 3 with delivery on Feb 10 (in time for Valentine's Day).

LCW Fundraisers: Our sincere "Thank You" to everyone who helped and participated in our fundraising efforts in 2018. Because of you, \$1,545 was distributed to various people and organizations. Fundraisers for 2019 will be announced in upcoming bulletins and newsletters. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please see any LCW member.

Light for Today is available in the narthex.



***May you and your family
have a blessed and joyous Christmas
and a happy and health-filled New Year!***



HEIDELBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH
5187 Irvin Road
Slatington PA 18080

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4118 Main Street, Box 129
Slatedale PA 18079



Newsletter for the months of
JANUARY and FEBRUARY