



The Pastor's Pen

This letter of greeting begins early in December on a rainy Saturday morning (the 6th). This writing is necessary because Judie and I are departing with friends, Dolly and Craig from Carlisle, for a cruise out of Baltimore, MD, on Carnival Lines on Tuesday, December 9th (late afternoon) and traveling several stops to St. Thomas Island and return December 19th.

By the time you read this, we will have no doubt returned and find ourselves celebrating Christmas with our lovely extended church family at Lischey's.

May God provide special blessings as we journey together into 2015.

My prediction is: living one day at a time, allowing for God's Spirit to guide you, will provide the spiritual and physical strength you need.

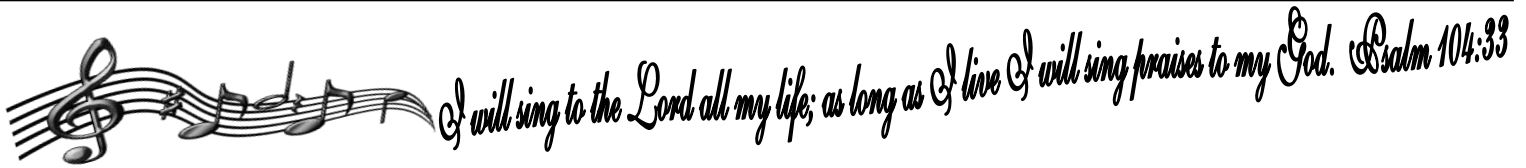
Come, and worship with us.

Yours in Blessing and Shalom,

Pastor Bob & Judie



Our Members: John & Maybelle Altland, Mabel Baer, Karen Bathgate, Becky Black, Mary Jo Bollinger, Barry Brown, Dale Danner, Clara Eisenhart, Jeff & Kathy Flickinger, Allen Hoke, Betty Hoke, Helen Klinedinst, Grace Kraft, Gladys Leese, Lois Nelson, Allison Orchowski, Pat Parks, Donny Pasmore, Linda Pentz, Brenda Starner, Annabelle Sterner, Norma Strausbaugh, John & Ruth Yohe. **Friends of the congregation:** Janet Eichelberger, Michelle Gemmill, Martin Hoke, Wayne, Theda, & Tim Jacoby, Hailey Kehoe, Logan Kehoe, Sharon Krout, Judy Luckabaugh, Caleb Martz, Carissa McComas, Carol Melhorn, Laurie Mosebrook, Diane Moul, Keith Myers, Neil Rechard, Kurt Riser, Stewart Runk, Jackson Salemme, Theodore Strausbaugh, Irene Walker, Diana Whisler, Karen Wintrey, Mike Zohrbaugh. **Search and Call Committee:** Diane Breeden, Nancy Cherry, Sandy Lehman, Delphine Waltersdorff, Jess Waltersdorff, Julie White, Dave Wiker. **Our friends at home** who we want to know are missed, yet are always in our hearts. **The men and women who are proudly serving our country:** Siafa Dennis, Phillip Hammond, Kody Lauchman, Joey Myers, Brandon Shepard, Curtis Spagnola, Shane Warner, Thomas Wedeking.



I'm having trouble compiling a January article when my head is still dancing with lots of cookies and there is lots of music to plan and put in its right place for the rest of December!

What I can do is thank everyone in advance for their participation in making our Christmas Eve pre-service program so very special! It's wonderful to get positive response when I ask people to do extra music numbers for that service. A special thank you to Mikayla Gebhart for joining us for the first time in our little instrumental group and as a soloist! It's wonderful when our young people make that commitment to serve in their church! I'm thankful for all of our youth who join us in sharing their special talents!

January Rehearsals

Sunday, January 4th, 18th
9:30 AM Joyful Singers

Sunday, January 11th, 25th
9:30 AM Praise Choir

Thursday, January 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
6:30 PM Chime Choir
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

January Special Music

January 4th Sanctuary Choir
January 11th Chime Choir
January 18th Joyful Singers
January 25th Praise Choir

Merry Christmas to everyone and a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Darlene

p.s. Nature report...I have an unseasonal nature report. In the later part of summer we were battling a huge type of hornet. I think it was a European hornet according to my research. They were not aggressive and never bothered us except for the location where they seemed to be living. They were entering between the soffit and the stone wall and at night they would make a little thud as they would fly against the living room window where a table light was and they would excrete a stream of something down the window. They were very busy and try as we did to discourage them from being there, some managed to survive. We checked in our attic area to make sure they weren't flying around in there and we didn't see any life there. And so the colder weather arrived and they were either gone or dormant! So then a few weeks ago it was time for me to get my Christmas decorations out of the very same attic space. When I removed the many boxes I became curious when I found 2 dead hornets on the floor. So I armed myself with a flashlight and went back in! I was so brave!! Well I was amazed and impressed at the huge hornet's nest that was down in the soffit area and between 2 rafters! It needs to be described as beautiful! All that papery material used for perfect layers upon layers of their home was unbelievable! I just had to marvel at their craftsmanship! One of God's smaller creatures and it has the talent to do that! Amazing, simply amazing! It confirmed for me that God is an awesome God! But I do hope they find another home next year and I hope God will forgive me for not being too hospitable toward them! And that was my amazing nature sighting and observation of the month!

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Sunday School 9:30 AM Praise Choir 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	29	30	31	Jan 1 	Jan 2 	Jan 3 Take down Christmas decorations 9:00 AM
4 Sunday School 9:30 AM Joyful Singers 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	5	6	7	8 Chime Choir 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:00 PM	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:30 AM Praise Choir 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	12 Council Meeting 7:00 PM 	13	14	15 Chime Choir 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:00 PM 	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:30 AM Joyful Singers 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	19 WIMPS 7:00 PM 	20	21	22 Chime Choir 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:00 PM	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:30 AM Praise Choir 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	26	27	28	29 Chime Choir 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:00 PM	30	31 Lecrone wedding 2:00 PM

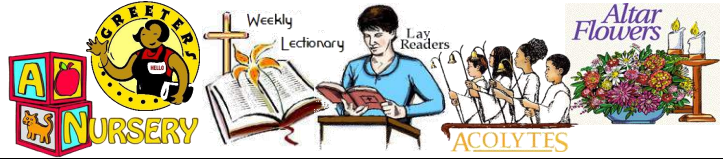


The Lischey's Illuminator

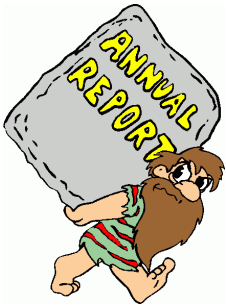
January 2015

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Thank you to our Volunteers!



	<u>January 4, 2015</u> <i>2nd Sunday after Christmas</i>	<u>January 11, 2015</u> <i>1st Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<u>January 18, 2015</u> <i>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<u>January 25, 2015</u> <i>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</i>
Ushers				
Lectionary	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1: (1-9), 10-18	Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11	1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20
Altar Flowers	Connie Neiderer	Lisa Crisamore		
Memorial Vase				
Acolyte	Kari Hamme	Ryan McKowen	Joe Crisamore	Cole McKowen
Worship Leader	Blaine Breeden	Dave Wiker	Don Carl	Kim DeGroft
Lay Reader	Blaine Breeden	Dave Wiker	Don Carl	Kim DeGroft
Greeters	Larry & Joy Spangler	Diane Patterson Donna Wiker	Wendy Carl Jean Gross	Carl & Nancy Cunningham
Nursery				
Children's Portion	Jess Waltersdorff	Julie White	We are still looking for 1 or 2 more volunteers to help with the Children's Portion. Please see Pastor Bob or Michele if you are willing to help.	
Special Music	Sanctuary Choir	Chime Choir	Joyful Singers	Praise Choir
Money Counters Mondays @ 12 noon				



ANNUAL REPORTS should be to the church office by **January 31st** for compilation into a book for the **Annual Congregational Meeting**, to be held on February 22nd. All organizations and committees should have a report of activities completed for 2014 and plans for 2015, a list of all committee members and chairperson(s), plus a financial report for the year if applicable.



A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING was held on Sunday, December 14th to adopt the 2015 budget and elect new council members. Kim DeGroft and Elvin Myers will be joining council. There are still 2 open positions. If you are able and willing to serve, please see Sandy Lehman.



THE SOUP KITCHEN SCHEDULE for 2015 is April 28; July 28; September 29; and December 29. Please mark your calendars.



WE WILL BE TAKING DOWN the Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 3rd at 9:00 AM. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS to Kayla Breeden, who graduated from West Chester University on Saturday, December 13th with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Nutrition/Dietetics. Well done and we wish you the best of luck on your job search!



THE WIMPS will start their year by making our traditional valentines for our friends at home. We will meet on Monday night, January 19th at 7:00 PM. We will also be discussing what event we would like to do with our WIMPERs! Please plan to be there!



OUR DEEPEST CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES are extended to family and friends of Dorothy Sneeringer, who passed away on Sunday, November 23rd.

OUR DEEPEST CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES are extended to Vern & Becky Black on the passing of their nephew, Kevin Krepp, who passed away on Thursday, December 4th.

OUR DEEPEST CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES are extended to family and friends of Robert Myers, who passed away on Monday, December 22nd.



Thank You
thanks

many thanks

Thank You
Thanks SO MUCH

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our Cookie Extravaganza! It was a huge success again and we received some wonderful reviews from the community! We are very blessed to have 2 of the county's best professional male cookie rollers in our church! We all had lots of fun and shared fellowship on our Monday night baking sessions! Thanks to those who helped set up and tear down and fought off the temptation to taste every cookie! Thanks to everyone who donated supplies or money to buy supplies! Thanks to everyone who baked cookies at home and donated them for the sale! All your time, your money, and your donations were greatly appreciated and it is the only way we can continue to do this! So far we have made \$3,351.25 and there may be a few dollars still out there! A very commendable effort by everyone! Thank you!

THANK YOU to the Ladies of Lischeys for the beautiful poinsettia and to the carolers who gave of their time to spread joy to others. I appreciate it very much. *Betty Hoke*

THANK YOU to the carolers who came to visit and sing to me. I really enjoyed it. *Mabel Baer*

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK everyone who came out on Saturday, November 29th to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. A special thank you goes to the Bill Waltersdorff family for donating both of the Christmas trees. Also, we would like to thank everyone who comes out on January 3rd to take down the decorations. *Kim & Chris DeGroft*

THANK YOU to Jim Messinger for the ornaments that were given to the children in Sunday School. We are so blessed to have such a talented woodworker in our church family.

THANK YOU to the Ladies of Lischeys for the poinsettias for Barry & Allison. They are a beautiful symbol of the season and an example of the love shared by our church community. Allison's is still living from last year and starting to show color. Thank you for the lovely plants. *The Browns*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(*designates 80 and older)

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|------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| January 2 | Bernice Becker* | January 16 | Darin Black | January 24 | Kevin Shrader |
| January 6 | Donald Pasmore | January 17 | Brock Walker | January 26 | Christopher Neiderer |
| January 8 | Blaine Breeden | January 18 | Toni O'Neal | | Joy Spangler |
| January 10 | David Wiker | | Gloria Detwiler | January 27 | Austin Brown |
| January 12 | Joan Messinger | | Brittany Noel | January 29 | Dale Danner* |
| January 14 | Chris White | January 21 | Elvin Myers | | Kay Kessler |
| | | | | | Allison Orchowski |



New Year's Meditation

Dear Lord, as I close the door on this old year
I ponder on the things I've done;
On the things I've said and the joys I've had
Then I wonder, have I lost or won?

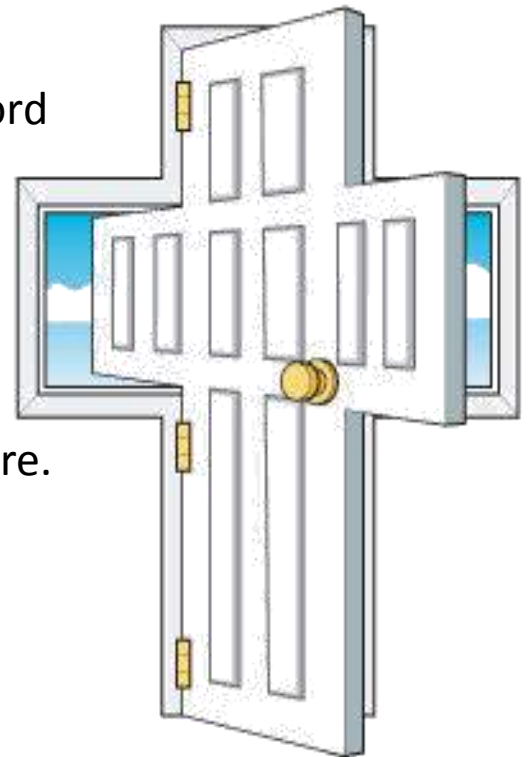
I've thought of the new friends I've made
And the old ones, staunch and true;
The path of the old year was made easier, Lord
Because I walked it with You.

I think of all the many times
When my burdens were so heavy to bear;
And how my faith slipped away from me,
But somehow, You were always standing there.

Now as I open the door to this New Year
And carefully peep inside;
I wonder what it holds for me?
But I'll throw the door open wide.

And whatever it brings to me and mine
I'll meet with a heart so true;
I know that, Lord, whate'er it may be
You'll be there to carry me through.

—Selected (Circuit Rider Ministry)



St. Peter's Lischey's United Church of Christ
5671 Lischeys Church Rd.
Spring Grove, PA 17362

JANUARY



If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest,
If you are mourning and you long for comfort;
If you are struggling and you desire victory;
If you recognize that you are a sinner and need a Savior -
God welcomes you here in the name of Christ.
To the stranger in need of fellowship,
To those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
And to whoever will come -
This congregation opens wide her doors
And welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday School
9:30 AM
Worship Service
10:30 AM

