

# The Traveler

God  
is still  
speaking,



## January 2018

### JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



545 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071 (Trachsville)  
Phone: (610) 681-4412  
Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC  
Website: [www.jerusalemucc.org](http://www.jerusalemucc.org)

**The Vision of our Church is to increase Faith, Hope,  
Love, Community and Belonging.**

#### **Church Staff**

**Pastor:** Rev. Kathryn Foster  
Office Hours: By Appointment

**Secretary:** Lyn Summers  
Office Hours: Tue. thru Fri. 9 a.m. – 1 PM  
(hours subject to change)

**Director of Music:** Shelba Scheffner  
**Director of Christian Ed:** Marcia Heinick  
**Treasurer:** Steph Anderson

**Financial Secretary:** Debbie Cope  
**Sexton:** Barry George

#### **2017 Consistory**

<b>President:</b>	Andrea Lazicki	610-681-3367	<a href="mailto:andrealazicki@me.com">andrealazicki@me.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Barry George	610-349-9278	<a href="mailto:BarryBus51@yahoo.com">BarryBus51@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Lyn Summers		

<b>Additional Members:</b>	Terry Goodhile	Paula Abel	Matthew Binder
	Ron Frable	Barry George	Kim Williams
	Wendy Hoppel	Andrea Lazicki	Ed Brader
	Delbert Knecht	Beverly Waibel	Lisa Williams

#### **Contact Information**

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Dear Members and Friends,

Hugh Whelchel, Director of The Institute for Faith, Work and Economics asks this post-Christmas question on his blog: “Should Christians Set Goals?” He presents this as a bit of a paradox in that in the bible the book of James says:

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that” (Jam. 4:13-15 ESV)

Furthermore, on several occasions the Holy Spirit prevented the Apostle Paul from following through on his travel plans. So why plan? (Acts 16:6-7). However, many biblical workers planned and undertook long building projects in order to follow and honor God. For example, Noah, Joseph, Moses, and Nehemiah. Jesus tells us to seek first the Kingdom of God and all our needs will be added unto us.<sup>1</sup> How do we seek the Kingdom of God without goals?

Thus, the questions remains: “Should Christians be goal setters, or should we just wait to see what God does with and for us?” I guess the answer lies in our attempts to follow God and to seek God’s Kingdom among ourselves. After all, this world is all we have right now. What is it that God wants us to do with the resources with which we are blessed?

For my part, to bring God’s will done on earth, I will try to fulfill the Great Commandment to love God and love people. I also want to fulfill the Great Commission to go out into the world and make disciples of all nations. That means to bring the Good News of salvation and redemption through Jesus Christ to the ears of those who need to hear it. These things are not easy because we often experience rejection and scorn from those who have thus far chosen not to hear this news. What’s more, people actively get in the way as we try to do that. However, it is the plan of God that we seek this.

My hope for our upcoming year is that we continue to follow through with our newly established vision, mission and ministry plan based on the above directives from God.

I am happy to be a fellow worker with you in fulfilling God’s plan on earth.

I wish you a happy, blessed 2018! Thanks for being here! I hope to see you in church!

*Pastor Kathryn*

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<sup>1</sup> Hugh Whelchel, Institute for Faith, Work and Economics, <https://tifwe.org/goal-setting-christians...>





## **MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!**

### **Sue Levandusky**

Susan was born and raised in Palmerton, PA. and was the daughter of Peter and Mary Levandusky (both deceased). She has two brothers, Peter and David and two deceased siblings – Christine and Carl. Susan attended the Palmerton Area School District. After graduating, she was employed by the Palmerton Area School District as a secretary at the high school for one year, afterwards was transferred to the district office as secretary to the Assistant Superintendent. A few years later, she was appointed secretary to the Superintendent of Schools. Susan worked at the school district for 34 years, retired in June of 2005. She worked part-time at the Hallmark Store in Lehighton for 8 years after retiring from the school district. Susan is fully retired and enjoys spending time with her dog, Colby and her cat, Willow. She loves gardening, bird-watching, along with the chipmunks and squirrels that are always eating the bird food! Also likes to read, do crossword puzzles and just makes the most of each and every day! Susan feels blessed to be welcomed as a member of the Jerusalem UCC. The congregation is so kind and friendly, along with Pastor Kathryn and her husband. GOD IS GOOD!!!

### **Donna George**

Donna is a Pennsylvania native who was confirmed at JUCC and was a member of the Dinkey Lutheran Church. Donna worked for several years at Scotty's Fashion in Little Gap before moving on to Indigo Jeans and Spring Dell in Mahoning Valley. Donna is married to her husband, Richard, and they have 3 children, 1 grandchild and another on the way in January! Donna is related to the Hawk Family. – her mom's brother is Ray Hawk. Donna and Richard reside in Lehighton. Donna likes to sew, play bingo, do puzzles, cook and bake.

### **2017 THANKSGIVING FILLING SALE**

We made 1200 lbs. of filling and it's all sold! A BIG thank you to everyone who helped either by donating items, chopping, dicing, peeling, slicing, or mixing. Also thanks to all who sold or delivered all that filling!

Income: \$3700.00 - Expenses: \$ 608.71

Profit: \$2761.29 - Tithe: \$2485.16

GOD BLESS ~ Lana Kuehner





**JANUARY GREETERS**  
January 7 – Grace & Leonard Borger  
January 14 – Shirley Hawk & Kim Williams  
January 21 – Barry George & Delbert Knecht  
January 28 – Deb Cope & Sue Levandusky



### 2018 CALENDAR

The following are JUCC’s dates for hosting families along with Jerusalem Lutheran:

February 25<sup>th</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup>

May 20<sup>th</sup> through May 26<sup>th</sup>

August 12<sup>th</sup> through August 18<sup>th</sup>

November 11<sup>th</sup> through November 17<sup>th</sup>



A Great BIG THANK YOU to everyone at JUCC who worked so diligently all of 2017 to make our ministries grow and flourish! Thank you for sharing all of your gifts and talents with our church and with our church guests. You all make this a wonderful place to be! Happy 2018!!

Please stay tuned in to our publications, newsletter, bulletins, website, and Facebook page for information on our Winter PA Dutch Heritage Festival!  
(Date to be determined)





