



# UNITED CHURCHES' NEWS

Published Monthly by the  
**UNITED CHURCHES OF LYCOMING COUNTY**  
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*Issued mid-monthly, September through May with special e-mail only summer issues.. Items marked with an asterisk may be of special interest to your congregation. Deadline to submit articles - First of each month.*

VOLUME XXX NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 12, 2013

**Please notify us if you change your e-mail address**

**Thank You** for receiving our Newsletter via E-Mail.  
 It is a wonderful donation of postage, office supplies and volunteer time.  
 Please send it on to others who can make use of the information.

## ***Church Women United's***

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER\***

Friday, March 1 at 1:30 p.m.  
 Quiggleville United Methodist Church  
 2079 State Road 973 West, Cogan Station

**I was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me** is the theme of this year's service taken from Mt. 25 where we are called to care for the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned. Women of France, have focused on 'the stranger' asking us to prayerfully explore this theme relating to immigrant and migrant people.

Walker and catheter bags and lap robes will be collected at this service to be distributed at area nursing homes. We are currently out of crinoline for our Christmas stocking project (collected in November) and are investigating other ways to provide stockings to our nursing home residents.

Quiggleville United Methodist Church is handicapped accessible. The side entrance has an elevator and parking. Plan to enjoy the social hour which follows the celebration.

Also, note on your calendar the May Friendship Day Celebration is scheduled for Friday, May 3 at South Williamsport United Methodist Church. The luncheon will be at Noon and the program at 1:15.

## **UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY\***



### ***Soup Sale***

February 15-29th  
 \$5.00 per quart



#### **ORDER FORM**

	Quantity
Cheeseburger	_____
Chicken corn chowder	_____
Chicken noodle	_____
Hot Sausage & Shrimp Gumbo	_____
Italian Wedding	_____
Mushroom lovers	_____
Spinach Tortellini	_____
Tomato Bisque	_____
Vegetable beef	_____
Vegetable beef w/noodles	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>	
Name	_____
Address	_____
Phone #	_____
<b>To order, call Sharon Comini at 447-3491</b>	

Benefits their Spring Break Mission Trip to NYC  
*-continued on page 2*

**CAMPUS MINISTRY \***

Sharon Comini, Coordinator, [ucm@uclc.org](mailto:ucm@uclc.org)

The students and I have been working through "Forty Days of Community" by Rick Warren and we are excited by the things we are learning. It is really preparing us for our trip as it is only one month away.

Our soup sale begins on February 15th and runs until the end of the month. (You saw the order form on the front page of this newsletter!) Now you can have homemade soup ready to go on a cold winter day and you'll be helping the students as well. Place an order by calling or emailing Sharon at 570-419-5376 or [ucm@uclc.org](mailto:ucm@uclc.org). We can deliver the soup within a day. Stay warm, and keep UCM in your prayers as we head to New York City to help those in need.

**WEDNESDAY NOON ECUMENICAL LUNCHES\***

Join us Wednesdays for lunch and a program. The lunch line opens about 11:45 a.m. and you are always assured of a tasty \$6 lunch, warm ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. The parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30. No reservations are necessary, but a call to Gwen, Office-322-1110 if you are not a regular attender will help our caterer, know how much food to prepare. Laity, clergy and people of all ages are welcome! (Listen to WRAK or call Gwen at 419-1464 to check for snow cancellation.)

**FEBRUARY**

- 13- **Rev. Karen Atanasoff**, Pastor, Pine Street United Methodist Church, *"Ash Wednesday Service and Imposition of Ashes"*
- 20- **Rev. Ken Weiss**, Caring Outreach "Helping Seniors Lead Happy and Full Lives in Our Community"
- 27- **Mrs. Sandra Grier**, Along the Way Bookstore, *"Enjoyment with Every Turn of the Page"*

**MARCH**

- 6- **Rev. Larry Waltz**, Retired American Baptist Pastor, *"And God Said, 'Hummingbirds Are Now Winter Birds in Lycoming County'"*
- 13- **Rev. Karl Jones, Jr.**, Director of Development, Northeast PA Lions Eye Bank, *"Giving the Gift of Sight"*
- 20- **Ms. Gail Burkhart**, Director, United Churches Food Pantry, *"Food and Much - Much More"*
- 28- **Rev. Gwen Bernstine**, Executive Director, United Churches, *"It's Wednesday and Friday's Coming"*

This is a ministry that everyone in our congregations and community is welcome to participate in. Make plans to join us and bring a friend!

**FLOOD RECOVERY: \* Call 570-322-7648**

This can be you! We really need your help to get families back in their homes. We are working on **Saturday:**

**February 23**

**March 9**

**March 23.**



At this point the focus will be finishing drywall, painting, trim work, etc. The amount and type of work will depend on the progress of each work day and any new sites that have come to our attention. Call the Flood Hot Line at 322-7648 or United Churches office at 322-1110 with the number of volunteers. Volunteers will meet at New Covenant UCC, 202 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Williamsport at 8 a.m. Saturday to receive assignments. Everyone should wear sturdy shoes, bring work gloves, and a favorite paint brush or tool bucket if you have one.

Congregations can select other dates to have your own workday. Call Phil/Gail Landers at 326-2337 for details.

## United Churches 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament\*

Friday, September 27, 2013

at White Deer Golf Course

8:15 a.m. registration and refreshments

Shot Gun Start - 9:00 a.m. Format - Scramble

The cost per golfer is \$80, which includes the round of golf, your golf cart, and a lunch following the event.

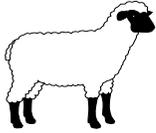
How can you help?

1. Mark your calendar and, if you're a golfer, sign up and develop a foursome.
2. Enlist sponsors for the event.
 

Tournament Sponsorship:	\$500
Beverage Cart Sponsor	\$400
Meal Sponsorship:	\$300
Hole Sponsorship (Signs):	\$100
Church Sponsorship:	\$ 50
3. Identify organizations willing to give golf and raffle prizes. Anyone with the right connections, or who has a business, should contact us if they can help.

Contact the Rev. Ken Weiss at [kweiss1213@hotmail.com](mailto:kweiss1213@hotmail.com) or at 321-9555. Please make checks payable to United Churches of Lycoming County and mail to Ken Weiss, 161 West Hills Drive, Williamsport PA 17701.





## SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS\*

**J. Morris Smith, Th. D.,**  
*Contact at: 322-6538*

### ASSUMPTIONS, IMPRESSIONS, AND JUDGMENT,

**H**ow many times has my first impression of someone been wrong? Yet, how often I have continued the practice of assuming something about a person based on empirical observation?

Nothing creates a first impression more than poverty. There are many kinds of poverty: mental, physical, social, spiritual, financial, intellectual, vocational, moral, personality, emotional.

On the other hand, we have all developed a code of conduct, a standard of judgment, a criterion of normalcy based on our own heritage, experience, education, and environment. Whether the consideration is based on holiness or worldliness, whether sacred or secular, whether pious or profane, the measure of propriety has been developed and by it we judge. When we are caused to change our mind, it calls for conversion, and to remain open-minded is the key.

Poverty, in any area of life, causes one to stand out; dress, hair, behavior, speech, etc. Poverty causes instant judgment, resulting in rejection, blame, and condescension. Any kind of poverty exposes and in our society, such exposure results in being deprived, restricted, and suspect.

Poverty in any area of life causes the poor to develop survival strategies often motivated by fear and anger in a world of alienation. These ways compensate for loss of control, embarrassment, and fear with outcomes of selfishness, denial, callousness which are walls of defense in a bewildered psyche. Thus, our first impression is surface observation and lacks penetration of concern. It is easier to just categorize the whole person and avoid relationship.

The poverty perceived in the mentally challenged, physically disabled, socially maladjusted, financially destitute, and spiritually deprived, leads to censure and separation and genders lack of respect, simple courtesy, tact, and true moral judgment.

Jesus taught that the poor were the subjects of the kingdom, and without becoming poverty stricken in our own spirit, we would not submit to the reign of God. Jesus took His disciples to the poor, the halt, the undesirable to teach them God's love and mercy. To move with love towards the poor, trapped in any kind of poverty, is tantamount to God's love for us and sending His Son to lay down His life for us. "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.

Rather, He emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness, and found human in appearance, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross." (Phil. 2:5-8)

Our codes of conduct, standards of judgment, criterion for normalcy cannot be the result of our own experience, education, and environment, but as a redeemed child of God, we must be transformed in our minds and hearts, and so base our judgment on God's holiness, not our own.

"The way we came to know love was that He laid down His life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for one another. If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses Him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him? ...Whoever keeps His Word, the love of God is truly perfected in him. ...There is no fear in love, for perfect love drives out fear. ...We love, because He first loved us. ...Whoever does not love a brother whom He has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ...If we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us." (1 Jn. 3:16-17, 2:5, 4:18-20, 4:12a)

Join with us in loving the poor through your prayers and your means.

#### **DIAL - A - DEVOTION \***

Have you called yet?

The number is 322-5762.

It's available 24 hours a day.



**D**evotions are three minutes or less, change weekdays and once on the weekend, and are designed to lift your spirits and help you to have "A Closer Walk with God." The devotionalists this fall include:

2/11/17 Mrs. Dorothy Wagner	2/18-24 Rev. Gwen Bernstine
2/25-3/3 Rev. Georgianna Welsch	3/4-10 Mrs. Sandy Grier
3/11-17 Mrs. Melanie Taormina	3/18-24 Rev. Danesta Whaley

*Listen today and tell others about this ministry!*

**FOOD PANTRY \*****Gail Burkhart, Coordinator 322-1657****E-mail - [foodpantry@uclc.org](mailto:foodpantry@uclc.org)**

**G**reat News! The work necessary to get our phone line and computer services hooked up is almost done and we can't wait! What a relief that will be to 'look something up', send an e-mail or pick up the phone and call. Even those of us who aren't technologically inclined get so we depend on the convenience of our gadgets. To all of you who have had delays in working with the pantry these last two months, thanks for your patience.



Now on to our next challenge. For me, time goes by so quickly that when faced with someone who says something like 'it's been six years' I always have a deer in the headlights feeling. How can it happen that it goes so fast?

We have a wonderful, dedicated, dependable volunteer who has picked up bread and sweets for us at Wegman's since 2006! Unfortunately she has been nursing issues with her back for almost that long and has just kept working thru the pain. Like all things, if we don't fix problems, they tend to get more severe over time. That's where things are now for her. She will be having surgery that will leave her unable to bend and lift. Very unwillingly she has told us that she'll be unable to continue her volunteer service with us. So we're now looking for someone to perform this service on Tuesday mornings. The food is usually ready for pick up between 9 & 9:30 a.m. and needs to be at the Pantry by 10. The other Tuesday volunteers can sort it out and bag it or the same person who picks up can do that, depending on availability of time. Whoever does this needs to have a van or small truck. We wish our friend successful surgery and a smooth recovery. She'll be missed and will appreciate your prayers.

We all know how expensive groceries are, have you really looked at the price of bread or do you just throw it in your cart because you need it at any price? Our clients budgets don't stretch to breads and sweets so those are items they very much look forward to getting when they come to our pantry. (Now if we could get them to eat healthy breads, but improving nutrition is a subject for another newsletter!)

If one of your New Year's resolutions was to get more active volunteering in your community, this is a perfect opportunity to jump in, in a small way, and have a big impact! Please give it some serious thought, prayer and call us. We'd be so glad to hear from you and have you join our league of great volunteers that keep our services flowing.

The last two years, with two major relocations worked out, I know this bump in the road can be overcome as well. Food donations have been generous and we're grateful, but there are a few items that are in short supply:

chunky soups	chicken noodle soup
tomato soup	canned fruits
spaghetti sauce	saltine crackers
popcorn (microwave)	hot chocolate
canned veggies	oatmeal packets (all flavors)
pastas (all kinds)	tea bags (regular flavor)
coffee	tuna fish

It's Valentine month and in case we don't tell you often enough: you are our valentines and very dear to our hearts!

P.S. Just a reminder: our phone number is 570-322-1657 and our hours of operation remain the same at : Monday 9:30 am to 12 noon (for food donations.) Tuesday and Thursday 10 am to 3 pm for client food distribution.

**YOKEFELLOW PRISON MINISTRY**

***Rev. Danesta (Nessie) Whaley,***  
***North Central Regional Director - 326-6868***

**V**alentine's Day is FAST approaching! It's that time again for our annual rose fund-raiser for Yokefellow!

The roses will be multi-colored again and are from Nevills. The cost is just \$25/dozen. They are long stem roses and wrapped in cellophane with ribbon. They are very beautiful!



The roses will be available on Wednesday, Feb. 13 between 1:00-4:00 pm at our Yokefellow office, 1200 Almond St., Williamsport, PA.

We were able to get some extras so if you didn't order earlier, and still want some, give me a call. The Yokefellow office number is 326-6868, my home is 323-0165. You can leave a message or email me at [smileynessie@yahoo.com](mailto:smileynessie@yahoo.com).

This is one way for us to bring in some much needed funds for Yokefellow.

Thank you so much for your support with this project, as well as with all that you do every day. Always keep us in your prayers.

**POVERTY - A FAITH-BASED RESPONSE\***  
*from our Christian Social Concerns Committee*

**F**or he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.  
He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy. (Psalm 72:12-13)

How aware are we of those in need in our churches, county, state, and the world? How are we doing as helpers for those in need? Are we including justice along with the charitable acts so that systems that contribute to need are changed?

Lycoming County Unemployment Rate Increases for December 2012: The preliminary unemployment rate for the county for December 2012 was 8.2 %. This was an increase over the previous four months of decline. The rate was also noticeably higher than the 7.0 for December 2011.

Living Wage – What Does It Really Take to Support a Family? In many American communities, families working in low-wage jobs make insufficient income to live locally given the local cost of living. Recently, in a number of high-cost communities, community organizers and citizens have successfully argued that the prevailing wage offered by the public sector and key businesses should reflect a wage rate required to meet minimum standards of living. Economists at MIT have devised ways to calculate what is necessary for living in counties in the United States. Currently the minimum hourly wage is \$7.25. By the Living Wage calculations for Lycoming County in 2013 the following hourly income would be necessary to meet “minimum” standards of living:

# Adults	# Children	Minimum Hourly Income
1.....	1.....	\$ 16.21
1.....	2.....	\$ 21.31
1.....	3.....	\$ 27.61
2.....	1.....	\$ 14.79
2.....	2.....	\$ 16.19
2.....	3.....	\$ 19.07

-Source: [livingwage.mit.edu/counties/42081](http://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/42081)

Home: A Blessing to be Shared: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? (John 14:1-3)

Questions for reflection, discussion, and action:

- Having a place, a peaceful habitation, is a basic need and an ancient yearning expressed throughout our scriptures. The passages above allude to what some would call a promised land or the kingdom of God. To have a home, no matter where or how, is a gift and a blessing

from God. How often do we think of it in this way?

- Our traditions teach us we are blessed to be a blessing. In what ways does this teaching challenge us with regards to sharing safe, peaceful, and affordable housing?
- What will we do in charity and for justice?

-Source: National Council of Churches – Poverty Initiative

**CREATION CORNER**

*from our Christian Social Concerns Committee*

**R**eligion & Science: If you are seeking to know "that the most fundamental scientific truths in contemporary physics and biology are analogous to and fully compatible with the most profound spiritual truths in all the great religious traditions of the world", see Re-birth of the Sacred: Science, Religion and the New Environmental Ethos by Robert Nadeau (Oxford U.P.). He posits a science/religion dialogue can serve as the basis of an environmental ethos, that, in turn, can give rise to a movement of religious environmentalism.

**Climate:** "U.S. roasts in hottest year on record by landslide" was the recent local newspaper headline in a look-back at 2012. "34,008" was the number of "new daily high temperature records set at weather stations in the U.S. in 2012" according to TIME magazine (1/21/13, p. 9).

For an historical context of the strategies used by climate change deniers, see The Inquisition of Climate Science by James Lawrence Powell (Columbia U.P.).

To read why a politically conservative atmospheric scientist accepts the broad climate change science consensus on global warming, and how to distinguish human-caused change from normal atmospheric variation, see What We Know About Climate Change by Kerry Emanuel (MIT Press).

**The Outdoors:** To understand something of which we have historically lost (a specific American landscape, the public garden cemetery), and how recovering its themes ("an ethic of communal care, with a sense of beauty and repose related directly to an acknowledgment of mortality and limitation") may help us re-think our approach to ecological crises, see Arcadian America: The Death and Life of an Environmental Tradition by Aaron Sachs (Yale U.P.).

**Energy Justice:** Finally, for a rather complete analysis of various issues (energy, environmental, corporate, educational, community, etc.) see [www.energy-justice.net](http://www.energy-justice.net).

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

**C**onnect Williamsport is a website that holds a community-based calendar maintained by the James V. Brown Library. It is now live at [www.connectwilliamsport.com](http://www.connectwilliamsport.com). Churches, organizations, groups and businesses are now able to register with the library to list events. As a community partner, you will have access to add events and even mark some



as "private" so that only the other community partners can see them. This is especially helpful for planning annual fundraisers and major events that are RSVP-only that you want other organizations to know about so they don't book an event on that same date. You

can go online to [www.connectwilliamsport.com](http://www.connectwilliamsport.com) and register as a community partner to begin adding events, or Dana Borick Brigandi ([dbrigandi1@gmail.com](mailto:dbrigandi1@gmail.com)) can add you and the system will send you a password. If you don't want to add events yourself, you can always email your upcoming events to [events@connectwilliamsport.com](mailto:events@connectwilliamsport.com) and we will add them as soon as possible.

**H**ealthy Families/EMS Expo will be held on May 18th from 10:00-2:00. This event is done with many partners, and churches groups and agencies in our community who promote health/healthy living in some way are invited to participate and have a table at this event. For more information contact Tonya at Rick Mirabito's office, 321-1270.

**M**eals on Wheels Needs: STEP Office of the Aging delivers Meals on Wheels to approximately 350 individuals in Lycoming County daily, Monday-Friday. They are homebound, age 60 or older, who are no longer able to cook for themselves. All meals are delivered by volunteers. It takes 55 volunteers per day to provide this service. In recent weeks, the STEP Office of Aging has lost a number of Meals-on-Wheels volunteers (vacations, poor health or death).



Volunteers either drive their own vehicle (\$.485/mile reimbursement or run the meals into the house (work in teams of 2). Some have a regular route the same day, every week. Some substitute on an "as-needed" basis. A route takes 1-1/2 hours, between 10:30 and 12:00.

We are also in need for retired professionals willing to coordinate the volunteers. This includes assisting center managers in maintaining volunteer records. This person

would also receive phone calls from volunteers when they are unable to complete their run and locate substitutes for that volunteer. At one of our centers, we have two church groups that have accepted responsibility for a route. They each have a group of volunteers who take turns week to week, so that each person does "Meals" once a month. They organize their own schedule and make their own substitutions. Perhaps your organization could also set up a similar situation to address the need for a "Volunteer Coordinator".

Barbara Irvin, volunteer coordinator, is available 8-1 at 323-3096 to answer questions about Meals on Wheels. She will also speak at a meeting of interested groups.

**Y**oung Adult Grief Support Group: Heartworks, part of Susquehanna Health Hospice, and a grief support program for children, teens and their families, is launching a new 4 week grief support group for young adults on February 27th. The group is for young adults ages 18 to 35 who have lost someone significant through death. The meetings will be held 7-8:30 PM and will include both conversation and hands-on (art, writing, music, etc.) ways of sharing the grief journey together. The death may have occurred recently, or even years ago. Many of us have "put off" doing the work of grieving and only as young adults do we see the need to spend time with our loss.

In our "hurry-up" society, we often don't stop to come to grips with the feelings and the changes that come with the death of a significant person in our life. We do not take time to remember. Young adults may not feel comfortable attending traditional groups with older adults and their friends, many of whom have not lost a loved one, may not be helpful. This group can help young adults have a safe and supportive place to let the process of grieving bring healing, and to take time to honor the one who has died. For pre-registration for this free program, call Linda Bryant or Cherrie Serra at 570-320-7691 or (toll free) 888-499-3177.

**W**est Branch Valley Healing House  
 Wednesdays from 10 AM to Noon and  
 The third Monday of each month 6-8 PM  
 Held in Citychurch, 36 East Fourth Street, Wmspt.  
 No appointment necessary

**EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AREA**

**W**alk through the New Testament is being held at Fairlawn Community Church on Saturday, February 23 from 9-4 (regristration begins at 8:30). The cost is for adults is \$25.00 (includes workbook, lunch and snacks) and for kids \$5.00 (includes pizza lunch & snacks!) A better understanding of 77 people, places and events that can change your life forever. You can register online at [www.fairlawncc.com](http://www.fairlawncc.com) or call 570-494-0414.

**B**rian Mextorf a member of Pine Street United Methodist Church will give a recital at Pine St Church on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Brian is a graduate of the Williamsport Area High School and Oberlin Conservatory and is presently pursuing his Masters in Voice performance at Westminster Choir School at Rider University. A free will offering will be received and given to a charity. All are welcome

**T**otal Woman Conference will be held Saturday, April 27 from 10-2 at the Holiday Inn, 100 Pine Street, Williamsport. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference is sponsored by Day by Day Ministries. Speakers will be Pastor Dorothy Anderson, Minister Jacquelyn Holloway, Carolyn E. Perry, BCM, and Minister Jacqueline Simmons. The donation is \$10 including lunch. Contact [daybydayministries2011@yahoo.com](mailto:daybydayministries2011@yahoo.com) or (570) 220-8063. Register now - Space is limited.

**T**winkie Clark will be here in Concert on Saturday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Curtin Middle School, Williamsport. Also preforming will be the Our Lady of Lourdes Choir and Kim Adair and Soulful. This Gospel Celebration is entitled "Let Go, Let God". Twinkie is part of the legendary Clark Sisters and a two time Grammy Award winner. Sponsored by IronMen Ministries, Love Unlimited Ministries and Dr. Richard Troxler, tickets are \$20 and are available at Our Lady of Lourdes (570-368-8598), Christian Light Bookstore (570-326-0251), Day by Day Ministries (570-220-8063), [www.iTickets.com](http://www.iTickets.com) and Redeemed Ministry (570-974-8681).

**M**aciah was born with Congenital Scoliosis (CS) and Thoracic Insufficiency Syndrome (TIS). CS refers to a spinal deformity caused by vertebrae that are not properly formed. The doctors say her case is very severe and will require number of surgeries to insert rods along her spine to correct. Because of this problem, her spine has caused a problem with her lung development, known as TIS. Her chest wall is supposed to be 14cm, but is only 7cm, and this will also require

surgery to correct. In March 2013 she will have her 1st surgery to insert VEPTR rods to correct her spine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. How can you help? Citychurch is hosting a Valentine Dinner and Dance on Feb. 15 and 16. You may still be able to make resevations by contacting David Moore @ 494-5100 or 326-7802 or Maciah's Journey on Facebook for tickets. Donations can be given to: Attn. Maciah's Journey at Pine Creek Valley Christian Church, 20 Locomo Lane, Jersey Shore 17740. Always, her most important need is for your prayers.

**L**ook Good...Feel Better is a free program that teaches people in active cancer treatment techniques to help them combat the appearance related side effects of treatment. This program is offered jointly by the American Cancer Society; the Cosmetic, Toilety, and Fragrance Association (CTFA) Foundation; and the National Cosmetology Association. Visit Look Good ... Feel Better at [www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org](http://www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org) or call 1-800-395-5665.

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**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**O**rganist Needed: St Michael Lutheran Church, Cogan Station is looking for a part-time organist. Please contact Holly Tagliaferri @ 570-398-7709 after 6pm for further details.

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**A**listing of Ecumenical Good Friday Services will be included in the March United Churches Newsletter. Please get information in to our office by March 4 at [director@uclc.org](mailto:director@uclc.org) or by calling 322-1110.



IN CRISIS? KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?  
WE CAN HELP!!  
**SUICIDE PREVENTION**

From anywhere call: 1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433)  
Lycoming County Crisis Intervention: 570-326-7895

## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET AND KIT COLLECTION \*

This sheet outlines ways churches can begin NOW to respond to the Blanket, Kit and Layette Appeal of Church World Service. Our collection will take place Saturday morning, May 4 from 9-11:00 at First United Methodist Church, Williamsport. With the disasters around the world and Hurricane Sandy stretching our resources here at home these blankets and kits are desperately needed. You can help insure that when disaster strikes, these relief items are available.

**PASTORS:** Please duplicate or forward this page and share it with your key leaders who will translate them into action.

**LEADERS:** Please share this sheet with others whose response will bring great blessings to many others.

**A BLANKET** is the basic component of every disaster response!

The causes are many - war, disaster, civil strife. The results are tragically the same - people moving, running. With them are only the few possessions they wear or carry. For many, one of our blankets serves as a shelter, a roof between a family and bad weather. It is privacy in a crowded camp, and a tote in which to gather a few salvaged belongings.



\$5 allows CWS to purchase wool-blend blankets in bulk from manufacturers.

*(Envelope/flyers for this collection are available from the United Churches office.)*

Durable donated blankets, including quilts and comforters are also accepted.

They must be 60" X 68" minimum. **Please add \$2.00 each** for processing.

**SCHOOL KITS** make the first days of school a dream come true.

Imagine new paper, pencils and crayons all because someone far away shared a school kit!

**Each School Kit contains:**

- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener (hand held)
- 1 large eraser
- 6 new pencils with erasers (unsharpened)
- 3 70-count spiral notebooks 8 ½ x 11" ruled paper (200/210 sheets) - no loose leaf or filler paper please
- 1 30-cm metric ruler (12") *(Rulers with inches on one side and centimeters on the other are OK.)*
- 1 cloth bag (12x14-14x17 inch) with cloth handle
- Cotton or canvas - no reusable shopping bags or backpacks



Place all items in a cloth bag. Patterns for bags are available at [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)

**Please add \$2.00 each** for processing.

**HEALTH KITS** bring clean hands, good grooming, and bright shiny smiles to friends around the world!

**Each Health Kit contains:**

- 1 hand towel
- 1 bar of soap (bath size still in wrapper)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 wide tooth comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 standard size band-aids

*(\*\*\*\*\*Do not include toothpaste.*

*It will be added by CWS at shipping because of expiration dates)*

Place all items in a one gallon zip lock bag. **Please add \$2.00 each** for processing.



**NEW: EMERGENCY CLEAN UP BUCKET KITS** sent nationally and internationally now.

- 1 - 5 gallon bucket with reseal able lid
- 18 cleaning towels (reusable like Easy Wipes)
- 1 - 50-78 oz dry laundry detergent
- 1 - 12 oz bottle household cleaner (like Lysol)
- 1 - 24-28 oz bottle disinfectant dish soap (like Dawn)
- 1 - 100 ft Clothesline (or two 50 ft clotheslines)
- 5 - packages dust masks (like Benchtopy)
- 6 to 9 oz insect repellent (pump, drops or lotion, NOT aerosol)
- 5 - Scouring pads
- 7 - Sponges, assorted sizes
- 1 - Scrub brush
- 48-50 Clothes pins
- 2 Pairs latex gloves
- 1 Pair work gloves
- 1 - 24-28 bag heavy-duty trash bags (30-45 gallon)

**Please add \$3.00 each** for processing.

Please purchase all liquids in new, unopened plastic bottles. Place all items in the plastic bucket and seal the lid.



**NEED SOME HELP?** Instruction flyers for these and the layettes, samples, blanket offering envelopes, information and speakers are available through our United Churches office, 570-322-1110. (No sewing kits.)