

## **The Linfield UCC Buzz**

### **January 2025**

#### **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CAROLINE...**

Happy New Year! As we welcome the beginning of 2025, I pray for God's blessings to guide and sustain each of you in this season of new beginnings.

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions dates back thousands of years, with roots in ancient Babylon, where people made promises to their gods as the calendar turned. Even today, we embrace this idea of starting fresh, letting go of what weighs us down, and hoping for a fresh start.

In our faith, the ultimate fresh start is found in Jesus. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 5:17: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"* The birth of Jesus, which we just celebrated, is a powerful reminder that God's grace makes renewal possible—not just once a year, but every moment.

January invites us to reflect on the newness God offers. This isn't about making promises we can't keep but about trusting in God's transforming work in our lives. It's about embracing forgiveness, extending grace to others, and walking boldly into the unknown with faith as our guide.

As we look to 2025, I am filled with excitement and hope for what God will accomplish through our ministry. From deepening our connections within the congregation to expanding our outreach in the community, there are so many opportunities to grow in faith and service.

Let us move into this new year together, as individuals and as a church family, trusting in the promise of renewal through God's love. With each step, may we remember that God is already doing a new thing among us—creating, redeeming, and sustaining us each day!

Blessings,  
Pastor Caroline

**THE CALENDAR** – *Please note that the roster of worship participants is posted on the website and on the calendar in Fellowship Hall.*

- Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am**      **Worship**  
Greeter: Adrien Cibulsky  
Liturgist: Carter Ross  
Ushers: Diane and Bob Muhlack
- Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00am**      **Men's Breakfast at Urban's**  
**7:00pm**      **Christian Ed Team Meeting**
- Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00am**      **Worship**  
Greeter: Teresa Diena  
Liturgist: Kenzie Keith  
Ushers: Joanne and Al Thomas
- Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**      **Mission Team Meeting**
- Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00am**      **Worship with Communion**  
Greeter: Cookie Shearer  
Liturgist: Susan Ross  
Ushers: Donna and Rich Lintott
- Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12noon** **Teacher's Closet** **POSTPONED – Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>**
- Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00am**      **Worship**  
Greeter: Judy Gondal  
Liturgist: Judy Landis  
Ushers: Don Bolonski and Perry Wetzel
- Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**      **Consistory Meeting**
- Every Wednesday at 10:30am**      **Bible Study**
- Altar Guild**      **Susan Ross**

If you would like to serve as a worship participant, liturgist, greeter, usher, or altar guild, please contact Susan Ross after worship or email at [sross10@comcast.net](mailto:sross10@comcast.net).

#### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Please refer your prayer chain requests to Karen Bolonski at 610-639-0416 or email at [karenbolonski@gmail.com](mailto:karenbolonski@gmail.com). Please remember that, due to HIPAA regulations, the disclosure of sensitive health information is prohibited without the specific knowledge and consent of the individual.

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Faith and Fellowship Christmas party was lots of fun. Lots of smiles and laughter was shared by all. There will not be a meeting in January. The regular Faith and Fellowship gathering will resume in February on the 20th from 6:30-8:00pm.

### **THE TEACHER'S CLOSET**

The Teacher's Closet continues to draw teachers from the area who come to take advantage of the opportunity to gather supplies for their classrooms and students. Their expressions of gratitude are heartwarming. There are no restocking needs at this time.

### **FUNDRAISING**

The fundraising team is busy making plans for projects for the new year. The group is open to suggestions and will welcome everyone who wishes to help in their efforts. Please contact Karen Bolonski or Cookie Shearer for more information.

### **MISSION**

The mission team will be organizing a group to prepare and serve a meal in January for the Warming Center in Pottstown. More information is forthcoming or you can contact Jon Detterline. On February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00pm the Coldest Night of the Year Walk will take place. There will be a 2km and a 5km walk depending on your inclination. This event is to help raise awareness of the needs of homeless people, especially during the cold months. If you would like to participate please contact Jon Detterline. We have received an update of requested items from Project Outreach; it includes jelly, canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, pasta sauce, baked beans, boxed potatoes, and paper towels. Your ongoing generosity is much appreciated.

### **PROPERTY**

Please contact Don Bolonski if you are able to help with sidewalk maintenance during the winter months.

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The social activities group will be meeting soon to start planning some fun for 2025 so look out for meeting information and events. If you have ideas for future activities and would like to join the group please contact Cora Smith ([coopchick@verizon.net](mailto:coopchick@verizon.net)) or Adrien Cibulsky ([yoadrien225@gmail.com](mailto:yoadrien225@gmail.com)).

### **COFFEE HOUR**

If you would like to help supply refreshments for Coffee Hour please check out the sign up sheets on the board in fellowship hall. Coffee will be provided. All monetary donations are used to purchase paper supplies and the coffee. Thank you for your generosity.

### **REMINDERS**

Elders are available to visit and bring home communion to those who are unable to come to worship.