

- the -
Bimonthly
Newsletter

The Viewpoint

Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center

Rev. Mary Kruse Zambrana

luke.doc

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have believed. Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

For a generation or two, diverse congregations have nurtured the spirit of ecumenical faith by hearing the same Scriptures on a Sunday morning. The Revised Common Lectionary takes us through a substantial portion of the Canon every three years, each year anchored by one of the synoptic gospels. For Year C, Advent, 2024, to Christ the King Sunday, 2025, we've got Luke! Until thinking about the Magnificat for our Advent, I hadn't realized how Luke opens and closes his Gospel with activity in the Jerusalem Temple. Matthew is strongly rooted in the prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures, but Luke's faith is especially conscious of worship of God in the Jerusalem Temple.

All the more remarkable that Part II of Luke's Gospel begins with the Risen Christ telling his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who will then empower their witness to the ends of the earth. The Acts of the Apostles then tells how this is fulfilled, ending far from Jerusalem with Paul under house arrest in the capital of the Roman Empire. As Jesus said, from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria and the whole world.

He doesn't put his name on his books, but the early church accepted them as authored by Luke. Luke was not one of the disciples and the tradition is that he was a physician, trained to weigh the evidence of the story handed down to his community from eyewitnesses and servants of the word.

Here we are at the end of the world, hearing the story of Jesus from Luke in order to know the certainty of the things we have been taught. Luke begins his Gospel with the fulfillment of God's promises in the Temple, and ends with the disciples returning to the Temple after seeing Christ ascend. It's our turn in an uncertain world to hear the story and rejoice in the place where we worship God. From there, we will continue to be a part of God's promises for the world.

Our Vision:
To Know Christ
and make Him Known!



Prayer List

The gift of prayer enables us to join with one another in consecrating our world, our lives, and our ministries to God.

Please lift in prayer: Lisa Jeffries, Colleen Teti, Global neighbors and communities, communities supported by our congregation, the youth of our congregation, youth of the world, people suffering at the border-pray for solutions, shut-ins, victims of war, victims of natural disasters, hate crimes, the homeless, elderly, the hungry, our nation.



www.thelearninginfo.com

Stay Informed

The Viewpoint | Page 2



BREAKFAST

The first Sunday of every month

Meet for Breakfast 8:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall
January 5 and February 2

We serve until 8:40 a.m.

Family and Friends are also invited!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Coffee hour every Sunday, except the first Sunday when we enjoy breakfast together, following worship service.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Join the women as they continue the discussion on the book; "The Good and Beautiful You" by James Bryan Smith.

January 18 | Library

February 15 | Library

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

January 4 and 18

February 1 and 15

Newcomers are welcome



LIFE CENTER MEAL

Volunteers prepare and serve an evening meal at the 63rd Street Life Center of Eastern Delaware County.



March 29

CHURCH MOUSE

9:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

January 10 and 11

February 14 and 15



Women's Retreat

Women's retreat January 31 thru February 1 at St. Raphaela Retreat Center in Haverford. Our teacher will be Dee Dee Risher author of the book "The Soulmaking Room". If interested let Chawezi or the church office know.

Tuition will be \$110 per person or whatever donation is affordable. Scholarships are also available.

There is room for 16 participants.

St. Raphaela Center provides a peaceful, welcoming atmosphere for all who are looking for a place and a time for God.

The Session recently approved the 2025 church and Mission budgets. While always a task with some tough choices to make, Tracy Johnson and the Finance team did a superb job in preparing and making it easier for us.



The congregation will receive the budgets in our February 2 congregational meeting as well as vote on the level of salary increase for the pastor. We welcomed Sandy Reilly as an Elder elect although she attended her first meeting as a guest until we can formally install her in January. With two people eager to join the church, we agreed on an interim process to prepare them to join. We intend to work with the new pastor whenever they are found to develop a new acceptance process.

Finally, we will meet an additional time in January in order to discuss what role Eric Myers will have with us when he retires to Liberia in the second half of this year.

Holton Falk,
Clerk of Session

The Viewpoint | Page 3

By now you may have noticed new windows have been installed in the Learning Center, the upstairs classroom and the parlor. We are in the process of choosing window treatments for the parlor windows. Also, the Riverview Avenue doors will be replaced by one glass door and two glass side panels with a mail slot tentatively on January 18. The new doors will be paid for by an anonymous donor. We are very blessed to have such a generous person in our congregation. This same person has donated an additional \$10,000 to use specifically for furniture and decorative items for the parlor, the Library and Linda's office.



Heidi Hamilton, Linda Martin, Chawezi Mwantembe, Sue Parker & Mary Ellen Scott —Restoration Committee



The Property Team is happy to report that new lights have been installed outside the Garrett Road doors. Sue Parker found a pair way upstate PA and we were able to have them refurbished at considerably less than new ones would have cost.

Andre Soto, Veronica's grandson, has been helping with work on the building grounds. Check out the beautiful pruning above the Riverview patio and around the back walkway. Report any new issues with the building to Heidi, Woody or Holton.

Property Team Members: Holton Falk, Heidi Hamilton & Woody Johnson

Some good news comes to us You may remember "Victoria"; the homeless lady who we tried to help. She joined us for several First Sunday breakfasts. She remained in the community having connected with our congregation and also Lansdowne Presbyterian Church and perhaps others too. Despite all folks willing to help her, she was determined to remain on the street.



The good news is she is now in a facility near the Germantown area. Since apparently she has given my name and number as contact person, I was contacted because she has had a fall and the rule is the facility must notify the responsible party. Someone was able to succeed where we failed and convinced her to take shelter. She is safe and cared for now! So let's pray for Mary Gay, which is her actual name.

Sue Parker



A man climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. He asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A minute." The man asks, "What does a million dollars mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A penny." The man asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord replies, "In a minute."

The Viewpoint | Page 4

After worship on December 1st, members of the Christ’s Community Church congregation drove to the home of Bud and Paula Dryden. They are moving to Lancaster County and the movers were to arrive the following week. We enjoyed hot chocolate, cider and various munchies while we visited with Bud and Paula for the last time in their Drexel Hill home.

We shared stories about our time with the Dryden’s and what they’ve meant to each of us. We (emotionally) sang “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” and “As You Travel from This Place.”

Bud and Paula have been part of our lives for the past 40 years and saying goodbye was difficult. We know they’re moving on to the next stage of their lives, and we wish them the same love, joy, comfort and friendship they’ve brought to each of us over the years. They will be missed, but we know they’re fulfilling their retirement dream.

Bud and Paula, we wish you all good things and abundant blessings, and as the song says: “. . . All the life we’ve shared together will continue, as you grow in the knowledge, learn of the wisdom, and live in the spirit of our God.”

And FYI: Bud and Paula’s new address:
433 S. Kinzer Ave. 351 GE
New Holland, PA 17557



The Viewpoint | Page 5



Sprinkle for Laura Johnson



Scavenger Hunt



The Viewpoint | Page 6

Christmas Pageant



The Viewpoint | Page 7

Christ's Community Church
at the Riverview Avenue Community Center
337 Riverview Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA
(610) 259-2696

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
In-Person and on Zoom

Email: ccc@rcn.com

Website: www.ccchurch.co

Facebook: Christ's Community Church of the
Presbyterian Church USA

Instagram: [CCChurch_DrexelHill](#)

Happy Birthday to you!



JANUARY

- 2—Stephenie Saylee
- 8—Bud Dryden
- 14—Veronica Hernandez
- 27—Holton Falk
- 31—Lynne West

FEBRUARY

- 4—Chris Stephano
- 6—Charlotte Sawatzki
- 7—Allison Kerr
- 13—Bob Kerr
- 17—Laura Scott
- 18—Etta Saylee
- 24—Eloise Smyrl

The Viewpoint is a publication of
Christ's Community Church
Rev. Mary Zambrana, Bridge Pastor
Rev. Robert Eyre, associate pastor for
missional outreach;
Linda Evans, editor

When you carry the WEIGHT of yesterday,
it will ruin the POWER of today and the
PROGRESS of tomorrow.

Dr. Tony Evans

January / February
Weekly/Monthly Meetings

Sunday	9:30 a.m.,	Informal Worship Virtual Worship Service
Monday	6:30 p.m.,	Girl Scouts in Room 3
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.,	Al-Anon in the Parlor
	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	7:00 p.m.,	NA in Fellowship Hall

January

January 1, Wednesday	Happy New Year—Office Closed
January 4, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
January 5, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 7:00 p.m., Children & Youth Mtg. on Zoom
January 10 and 11 January 12, Sunday	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse 9:30 a.m., Worship Service Installation of Officers 11:15 a.m., Session Meet
January 14, Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Finance Team Meeting
January 18, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Women's Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship 9:30 a.m., Worship Service
January 19, Sunday	January Birthday Celebration
January 20, Monday	MLK, Jr. Holiday—Office Closed
January 26, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
January 31 - February 1	Women's Retreat

February

February 1, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
February 2, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service Congregational Meeting following worship
February 7, Friday	9:00 a.m., Overbrook Presbyterian Community Kitchen
February 9, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service 11:15 a.m., Session Meet
February 14 and 15 February 15, Saturday	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse 9:00 a.m., Women's Bible Study Group 9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
February 16, Sunday	March/April Viewpoint Deadline 9:30 a.m., Worship Service February Birthday Celebration
February 17, Monday	President's Day Holiday—Office Closed
February 23, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service

