

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522


Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

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Office Phone: 610.682.6064

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon



I will recount the gracious
deeds of the LORD ...
because of all that the
LORD has done for us ...

Isaiah 63:7, NRSV

THE MISSION OF
NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

*We are a group of people who
gather together in friendship and love
to worship God, to spread God's Word,
and to care for God's people.*



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Do people still sing “Home, Home on the Range?” Even folks who do not live where “the buffalo roam,” long for a “home . . . where seldom is heard a discouraging word and the skies are not cloudy all day.” While we can’t promise a place where “the skies are not cloudy all day,” we can work toward being a people and a place where discouraging words are seldom heard.



In the Letter to the Colossians, St. Paul writes

“our prayers for you are always spilling into thanksgivings. We can’t quit thanking God our Father and Jesus our Messiah for you! We keep getting reports on your steady faith in Christ, our Jesus, and the love you continuously extend to all Christians. The lines of purpose in your lives never grow slack, . . . kept taut by hope.” (1:3-5 The Message Bible)

Talk about an encouraging word! I’m sure we’d all like to hear things like this, and to hear them frequently, especially when we are facing changes and challenges. The words don’t even have to be so exuberant. A simple, genuine “How’s it going?” followed by someone taking time to listen not only to the words, but also to the tone and body language, yes, that would be encouraging. That would communicate that someone cares and is there to support you.

Our congregation, like so many others, faces challenges that come with changes in our society. Our members face many challenges including those associated with health concerns and with changes in life. Some have had loved ones die. Some need to move into different homes. Even “positive changes” have their challenges, like when our youth learn to drive or become more independent.

When we are challenged, we can feel discouraged and at the same time we can *also* dream of what can be and take steps that may help make these dreams come true. The two responses are not mutually exclusive. Changing times call for new dreams and new ideas about how to reach these.

You may notice many new ideas and activities emerging in our congregational life. Some may *resemble* things we’ve done in the past. Some may look very different. Some even include other congregations. Some will bring blessings of new relationships and energy. Some may not immediately work out as we expected, but are worth a try because we never know how God’s Spirit will work through our efforts. In all these cases providing an encouraging “word” may look like sharing in the dreams, suggesting additional ideas, inviting others to join the activities, and pitching in, even if you don’t think the idea is “the best thing since sliced bread”.

We are a people of hope. We are a people who have received the Encouraging Word of God known as Jesus Christ. We are a people who continue to receive God’s encouraging words through scripture and the sacraments. We are called to be people whose encouraging words and actions share God’s love to others.

Just like St. Paul, I find that my prayers for each of you and for our congregation “are always spilling into thanksgivings.” May you, also, find much for which to be thankful. May our fellowship at New Jerusalem be a place where you receive and pass along many encouraging words.

Pastor Ruth

NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our council meeting on July 8:

- Gluten-free wafers will now be available on Communion Sundays.
- Allen Turner is preparing an estimate for the installation of the handrails leading up to the altar.
- A motion was made and approved to hold the Fall Festival on Saturday, September 14.

AUGUST SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Flower sponsor for August 11, Bulletin sponsors for August 11, 18, and 25, a Children's Bulletin sponsor, an Altar Guild volunteer, and a Communion Set-up volunteer for August 4. Thank you to everyone who signed up!

AUGUST GREETERS SIGN-UP SHEET

Greeters are needed for August 4 and 11. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are able to help. Thank you!

PASTOR RUTH will be out of town on flex time from August 7-13. If you would need pastoral care during this time, please contact Chaplain Colleen Kristula for August 7, 8, 12, and 13 at 610.223.1400 and Pastor Roger Ulrich for August 9, 10, and 11 at 610.207.8042.

SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the September 2019 newsletter is **Sunday, August 18**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

HARVEST HOME SERVICE

On **Sunday, August 18**, we will be holding our Harvest Home service. We invite you to share your bountiful harvest with us by bringing in fresh produce from your gardens or any non-perishables you would like to donate to the Brandywine Food Pantry.

SAVE THE DATES – FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

September 15, October 20, November 17, and December 8, starting at noon. Bring a lunch.

BACKPACK SUNDAY

On **Sunday, August 25**, will be the Blessing of Backpacks. Students and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed during the worship service. Enjoy a scavenger hunt immediately following worship.



NEW JERUSALEM FALL FESTIVAL

We will be having our second Fall Festival on **Saturday, September 14, 2019 from 4:00-8:00 p.m.** The Majestics will be performing their country and bluegrass hits from 5:00-8:00 p.m. There will be chili, hamburgers, hot dogs, snacks, desserts, and beverages for sale. There will also be a Cake Walk.

OLEY VALLEY FAIR

New Jerusalem will be serving french fries at the Oley Fair on **Thursday, September 19**. Your help is needed! There will be 3 shifts: 10 am – 2 pm, 2 pm – 6 pm, and 6 pm – 10 pm. 8 volunteers are needed for each shift. If you can volunteer any time to help, please see Ty Rissmiller.

BREAKFAST WITH OUR FIREFIGHTERS

Saturday morning, **October 12, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.** firefighters and their families from the Lyons Fire Company will join members of the congregation for breakfast. This is a chance for us to get to know, thank and encourage these vital members of our community. Plan now to attend. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex or call the church office to let us know you are coming. There will also be a sign-up sheet for donations and volunteer help for the meal.

SAVE THE DATES

August 18 – Harvest Home Service
August 25 – Backpack Sunday
September 14 – Fall Festival
October 12 – Breakfast with our Firefighters
November 10 – Stewardship Sunday

2020 BUDGET INFORMATION

To give the Finance Committee enough time to prepare the budget for 2020, all committees are asked to have their budget information to Finance by the beginning of September. Thank you!

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS

Things really get exciting when Christians talk with one another.

At the July 9 meeting, representatives of 5 churches continued work on ways we can cooperate in mission. Since we are just starting out, we decided that if specific congregations took the lead on tasks and events of their choosing, we could get underway as quickly as possible.

Potential dates for the following events were discussed and planning is now in progress:

August 18

Peach Festival at Hope, Bowers, 4-7 p.m.

August 25

Intergenerational event of mini-golf at Gasser's Golf. Christ, Dryville taking the lead.

September 14

Fall Festival at New Jerusalem Lutheran, 4-8 p.m. The Majestics performing 5-8 p.m.

September 21

Homecoming Event at Christ DeLong, 10:30 a.m. worship / 11:30 a.m. picnic

October (date to be determined)

Apple Dumpling Sale at St. Peter's, Topton.

October (date to be determined)

Community Fall Festival at Hope, Bowers. Anyone interested in setting up activities, selling crafts, or have other ideas, contact Hope.

November 17

Golden Friendship Sunday at Hope, Bowers. Emphasis on vets. Worship at 10:30 a.m. with an A Capella group providing the music. Meal following worship. Reservations will be taken. Those who can't make both, are welcome to attend one.

December 6

Kutztown University Alumni Jazz Band at Christ, Dryville, 7 p.m.

December 15

Shared Christmas Cantata at Christ DeLong, 4 p.m. Light meal following.

March 13-15, 2020

Shared Confirmation Camp at Bear Creek Camp

March 21, 2020

Feed the Need Food Packing Event at Christ, Dryville

Christ Dryville will take the lead on starting up a free monthly community meal in the Fall. Plans are to move this meal from church to church and keep it very simple. The goal is to provide opportunities for community members to engage in fellowship as well as well as enjoy a communal meal.

The group is also checking out opportunities to engage in community Christmas Caroling.

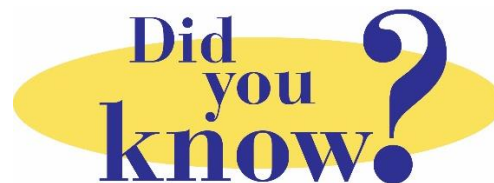
PARENTS INTERESTED IN THEIR CHILDREN OR YOUTH RECEIVING FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION, please contact Pastor Ruth.

INTERESTED IN VISITING A SYNAGOGUE FOR A WORSHIP SERVICE, please contact Pastor Ruth.

The word "THANKS" is written in large, colorful, block letters. Each letter is inside a square of a different color: T (orange), H (green), A (blue), N (yellow), K (red), S (purple).

Pastor Ruth, thank you for again helping our kids learn God's Word during VBS. The kids really enjoyed the Ark Story. – God's Blessings, *Carla*

Dear members of New Jerusalem Lutheran, thank you again for supporting our community with your recent food donation to the Brandywine Food Pantry. We appreciate you! – Sincerely, St. Peter's UCC

The text "Did you know?" is written in a blue, serif font. The word "Did" is on the top line, "you" is in the middle, and "know?" is on the bottom line. The question mark is large and stylized. The text is set against a yellow oval background.

GRAPES

As the fruit used to produce wine or juice for Holy Communion, grapes represent the blood shed by Jesus on the cross. Grapes also symbolize fruitfulness (or lack thereof) in the life of ancient Israel and, by extension, of a Christian. "My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill, . . . he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes" (Isaiah 5:1-2, NRSV).



NEWS & EVENTS

in the Community

SAUSAGE SANDWICH SALE

Hope Lutheran Church, 550 Fleetwood Road, Bowers, will be holding their sausage sandwich sale on **Saturday, August 3, from 10 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.** or until sold out. The cost is \$5.00. To pre-order contact Raymond Moyer at 610.682.6455.

ANNUAL PEACH FESTIVAL

Hope Lutheran Church, 550 Fleetwood Road, Bowers, is holding their annual Peach Festival on **Sunday, August 18, 4:00-7:00 p.m.** Hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ, peaches, ice cream, and baked goods will be served.

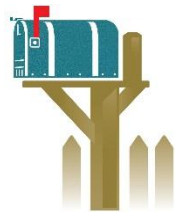
BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT FORUMS

The Lutheran Home at Topton will be running Bereavement Support Forums the third Tuesday of each month at **10:00 a.m.** Led by Rev. Dr. Colleen Kristula, Chaplain at the Lutheran Home at Topton, they will be held in Deibert Hall, first floor of D-wing. On **August 20, 2019** – *Meaning Making: Journaling, Living Memorials, Rituals*. A time for sharing and refreshments will follow each program or presentation. There is no fee to attend, but please register at 610.682.1334.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL – LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

During most of August, into the beginning of September, our second lesson will be from the Letter to the Hebrews.

We don't really know who wrote this letter, but it seems to have been composed between 60 and 69 to a group of Jewish Christians who were facing tough times, including challenges from other Jews. In certain areas when Jews converted to Christianity, they were banned from the synagogue and other communal privileges. There seems to have been a lot of pressure for the converts to return to the old rituals, sacrifices and strict adherence to *Torah*. Some of the new believers were probably confused about just what was and was not required of them. In addition, Judaism was a protected religion under Roman law and Christianity was not, so some Jewish Christians may have found it tempting to return to their Jewish roots to escape persecution from the Romans.



The main purpose of the letter seems to have been to help these Christians better understand the role of Jesus, that he is superior to angels, the prophets of the Old Testament, Moses, the law, the old covenant, the priesthood, etc., that he reveals God in a new and complete way. The many events and heroes of faith mentioned in this letter, including Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah David, Samuel, etc., can get confusing for those of us not familiar with all the Old Testament references, but they would have been important and made a lot of sense to the audience. The inclusion of these names and events was meant to point to Jesus as the fulfillment of every promise of God.

Near the end of the book the author writes, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." (12:1-2)

These encouraging words for that time are no less encouraging for us today. We have also had many more witnesses to surround us. When you picture that great cloud of witnesses, whom do you see? Who encourages you in your faith?

SUMMER FRUIT BASKET

Taste some fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) – perfect for summer, and all year round!

Love: "There is always an 'again' with love – Unknown

Joy: "I don't think of all the misery, but of the beauty that still remains." – Anne Frank

Peace: "Peace begins with a smile." – Mother Teresa

Patience: "The purposes of God may sometimes seem delayed, but they are never abandoned." – H. C. Mears

Kindness: "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see. – Mark Twain

Goodness: "Goodness means to do things for the glory of God." – Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Faithfulness: "Do small things as if they were great because of the majesty of Christ, who does them in us." – Blaise Pascal

Gentleness: "There is nothing stronger in the world than gentleness." – Han Suyin

Self-control: "God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." – 2 Tim. 1:7, ESV



12	Katie Hess
14	Brian Keller
15	Steven Seip
16	Aubree Musser
16	Gabriele Sanders
19	Penny Keller
19	Lynne Lounsbury
21	Dennis Beshore
21	Linda Didyoung
21	Patricia Keck
22	Tara Basta
23	Brandon Mengel
24	Anna Angstadt
24	Shirley Marks
26	Joyce Roethermel
27	Faye Dey
28	Forrest Merkel, Jr.
28	Richard Musser



9	Jeff and Dawn Wengert (22 years)
15	David and Diana Moyer (21 years)
18	Marlowe and Brenda Greis (35 years)
19	Richard and Pastor Ruth Doty (47 years)
23	Kenneth and Cheryl Wiltrout (42 years)

DECEIVED BY ‘THE LIE OF MORE’

And Jesus said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ - Luke 12:15

“The Andersons” looked uncomfortable as they explained why they couldn’t give more. “We’d like to,” Mrs. Anderson said, “but we’re getting *killed* with bills.” Mr. Anderson added, “We barely make ends meet.”

Swimming with stagnant wages against a tide of rising costs, millions of working families struggle to find even enough, but the Andersons’ plight is different. They are blessed with excellent jobs and generous incomes. Sadly, they fell prey to “the lie of *more*” that drives our consumer culture.

“The lie of *more*” deceives us into thinking that true happiness, true peace, true contentment is within our grasp – if we only have a little “more.” So we grasp for more stuff, more wealth, more experiences. We often end up not only drowning in debt, but also less happy, less peaceful and less content.

People of all incomes can become ensnared in “the lie of *more*.” In its trap we squander our abundance for scarcity. Instead of living in the freedom and joy that Jesus spoke about in John 10:10, we live in the bondage of debt and stress.

Here are some ways to free yourself from “the lie of *more*”:

- Pray regularly over your finances, thanking God for your income (whatever it is) and asking for wisdom and strength to live within your means.
- Use a household budgeting tool or work with a friend who is good with numbers to come up with a plan to immediately match your income with your bills.
- Develop a longer-term strategy to pay off credit cards.
- Pray over every expenditure: Is this a *necessity* or a *want*? Will this *really* bring me happiness? Does this fit into my budget strategy?
- Work towards a faith plan for your income, such as 10-10-80: Give away 10 percent, save 10 percent and live on 80 percent.
- Explore “financial literacy.” Perhaps you could encourage your congregation to sponsor classes!
- As you started with prayer, continue to pray regularly over your finances.

No matter what our income, our lives are fuller and richer when we confront “the lie of *more*” and focus on the sources of true happiness: Our loving relationship with God and neighbor.

—Rob Blezard

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“I always wondered why somebody doesn’t do something. Then I realized I am somebody.”

—Lily Tomlin

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

June 30, 2019

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 25,391.58
Thrivent	8,067.55
Checking	2,780.04
Youth	405.11
Fidelity	120,819.99
Cash Reserve	29,254.25
Mission Investment	11,401.75
Local Care	1,678.75
Total	<u>\$ 199,799.02</u>

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **June 30, 2018** \$ 206,906.24

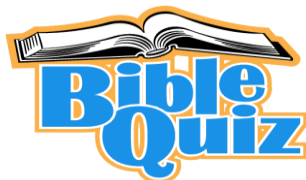
June 2019 – ‘Actual’ vs. ‘Required’ Income

Income	Income	Actual	Difference
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Income</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,077.08	\$ 5,029.53	\$ (4,047.55)

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2019
Budget Passed by Congregation
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution*

Parking Lot – Funds received to offset expenses
for Driveway/Parking Lot Repaving

\$ 37,140.00 Total Expenses for Project
\$ 27,006.54 Funds Received to offset expenses



During the dramatic experience when God called Isaiah to be a prophet, who or what filled the temple?

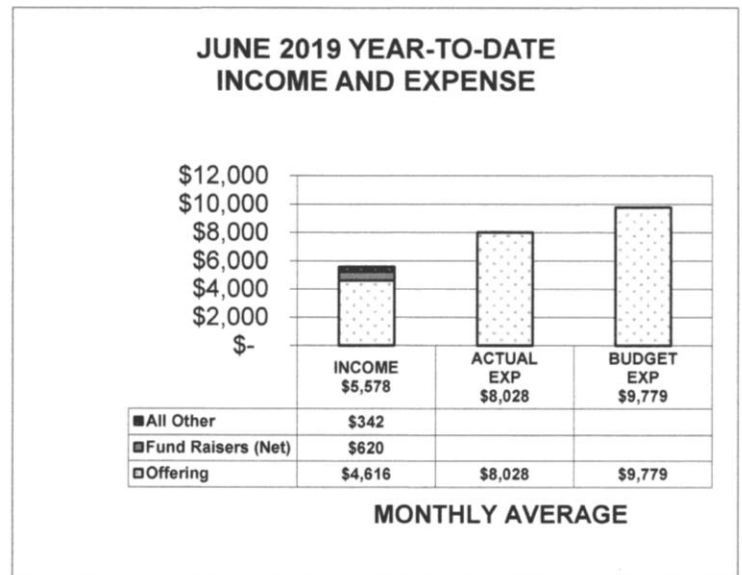
- A. 144,000 worshipers
- B. The bottom of God’s robe
- C. Smoke
- D. Priests offering sacrifices



Answers: B and C (see Isaiah 6:1-8)

In a recent discussion someone noted that when some people look at our report of our finances, they only look at the total of our assets and think the congregation is in great financial shape. It is true that we are blessed. However, it is also true that our expenses significantly exceed our offerings. This is reflected in the figure under “difference.” At this time, we anticipate that our assets will be depleted at a faster rate than previous years since at present we are not planning any shoofly pie sales. In time, this trend will impede our mission.

God blesses each of us richly. God also calls each of us to be good stewards of our blessings and share in the mission of God’s church, including the mission of the congregation. Regular giving, even if you are not able to be present at worship, enables us to continue to offer opportunities for worship and service, to respond to and share God’s love and blessings with others.



CALENDAR YEAR 2019 INFORMATION NORMAL OPERATIONS (DOES NOT INCLUDE MAJOR REPAIRS/PURCHASES)

INCOME & EXPENSE ACTIVITY JUNE 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE		
	Jun Y-T-D	Average Month
Income		
Offering	\$ 27,693	\$ 4,616
Fund Raisers	\$ 3,722	\$ 620
Other	\$ 2,052	\$ 342
Total Income	\$ 33,467	\$ 5,578
Actual Exp		
Actual Exp	\$ 48,167	\$ 8,028
Budget Exp	\$ 54,453	\$ 9,076
Shortage *	\$ (20,986)	\$ (3,498)

*NOTE: Shortage - Total Income to 2019 BUDGET Expense
Less Benevolence



IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers



PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE for Those Homebound or in Care Facilities: Anna Angstadt, Bertha Bennecoff, Helen Fair, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, Leon Moyer, Irene Noll, and Joyce Roethermel.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Members: Myles Angstadt, Dallas Bennecoff, Erma Guinther, Virginia Guinther, Amanda Herman, Lucille Jones, Pat Keck, Penny Keller, Phillip Litschke, Sheila Long, Roy Merkel, Grace Miller, Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Bradley Musser, Joanne Pauley, Dale Schwoyer, and Dawn Wartzluft.

Friends of the congregation: Carrie Bausch, Adam Bell, Carson Bosma, Thelma Bright, Justina Campbell, Bill Collins, Earl Derr, Mark Derr, Randy Dreibelbis, Jennifer Engle, Eric Fox, Becky Graeff, Mamie Guinther, Shirley Hahn, Corinne Hersh, David Jenkins, Sue Kerny, Janis Kershner, Angie Kistler, Anh La, Marie Leibensperger, Catherine Lenio, Ella Loose, Michael M., Michelle Meck, Phillip and Nancy Meck, Rodney Muthard, Nicolette Nolte, Duane Petersheim, Family and friends of Jackson Radcliffe, Randy S., Family and friends of Sue Strong, Leticia Weaver, Leah Wiest, Althea Young, and Pat.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: We pray for our nation, our president, congress and judicial system, and leaders of our communities; an end for threats between nations; peace in the world; our military personnel serving around the world; areas enduring disaster; and migrants and refugees.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Millie Berger, Sandy Burkart, Evelyn Collins Don Gajewski, Erma Gajewski, Lorelai Gold, Tonya Petersheim, Arlene Reider, Leilani Rodriguez, Andrew S., Joshua S., Donna Schwoyer, Jack Stoudt, Jacqi Wagner, and Dennis Wright.

“You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together, we can do great things.”

—Mother Teresa

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Donated items in need right now: jelly, ketchup, mayonnaise, soups of all kinds, coffee, fruit juices, **Chef Boyardee-style canned items** (beefaroni, lasagna, etc.), **chili, Hamburger Helper, snacks** (cookies, chips, pretzels, pudding, etc.), flour, sugar, oatmeal, breakfast cereal, pancake syrup and mix, cooking oil, beef stew, canned meat (tuna, chicken, or Spam), Manwich or sloppy joe mix, instant rice, pasta or rice sides, ramen noodles, shampoo, bar soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent.

The pantry is always in need of the following items:

Canned Fruits: sliced peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, fruit cup, applesauce

Canned Vegetables: kidney beans, black beans, green beans, whole kernel corn and creamed corn, pork & beans, sweet peas, carrots, beets, yams

Canned Goods: Chef Boyardee-style canned foods, tomatoes, tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce

Condiments: yellow and brown mustard, pickles, salad dressings, vinegar

Drinks: hot or cold tea, water

Extra: peanut butter, marshmallow fluff

Dry Goods: stuffing mix, Rice-a-Roni, pasta (rotini, penne, macaroni and cheese)

Baking Items: cake or brownie mix, frosting

Breakfast Food: pop tarts, pancake mix,

Paper Products: tissues, toilet paper, paper towels

Personal Care Items: body wash or bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs and hairbrushes

Cleaning and Disinfectant Products: dish soap and laundry detergent

Gluten-free and sugar-free food is also greatly appreciated.

Please check dates on donated food products.

The Brandywine Food Pantry is supported by churches, civic groups, individuals, businesses, and schools in and around the Brandywine Heights Area School District. We welcome all donations of food, personal items, or cash. Checks may be made out to “**Brandywine Food Pantry,**” and mailed to **Brandywine Food Pantry, c/o St. Peter’s United Church of Christ, 122 W. Franklin St., Tipton, PA, 19562.**

The pantry is open to area residents by appointment on the first three Tuesdays of the month and the third Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m. For appointments, call 610-682-7633. Call either Tuesday or Thursday or leave a message with your contact information.

THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August

*	4	10:00 AM	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
	11	10:00 AM	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
*	18	10:00 AM	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Harvest Home Service
	25	10:00 AM	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Backpack Sunday – Blessing of the Backpacks

September

*	1	10:00 AM	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
	8	10:00 AM	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
*	15	10:00 AM	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Faith Formation Event after worship
	22	10:00 AM	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
*	29	10:00 AM	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)

October

	6	10:00 AM	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
*	13	10:00 AM	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
*	20	10:00 AM	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Faith Formation Event after worship
	27	10:00 AM	Reformation Sunday (R) – Holy Communion

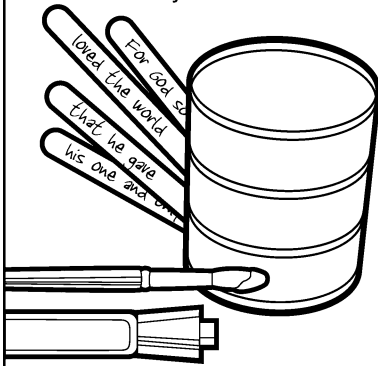
FELLOWSHIP DATES:

(*) Fellowship after worship



WAKE-UP WORDS

Play this memory game to start each day in God's Word.



What you need:

- Paint and paint brushes
- Stickers
- An empty, clean tin can
- Permanent marker
- Bible
- Wooden craft sticks

What you do:

1. Paint and decorate the outside of the can.
2. With marker, write a Bible verse on several sticks (only two or three words per stick).
3. Put the sticks in the can, and set it in a spot you'll see daily. As you eat or brush your teeth, practice unscrambling the verse and placing sticks in the correct order.
4. When you've memorized the verse, repeat with a new one.



GOD'S MORNING ROUTINE

Every new day, we wake up to blessings from God.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in the words. Then write the boxed letters in order below to complete Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV.

Brush these daily

___ _ _

Do this to your shoes

___ ___

This rises in the east

Cold breakfast food

___ _ _ _

Hot breakfast food

___ _ _ _

Talk to God

___ _ _

Morning meal

___ _ _ _ _ _

Extend your limbs

___ _ _ _ _

Fruit drink

___ ___

Waffle machine

Eat these scrambled or fried

___ _



Because of the LORD's great love ...

never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, NIV

Answer: teeth, tie, sun, cereal, oatmeal, pray, breakfast, stretch, juice, iron, eggs; his compassions

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
8/4	TBA	Kathy Bailey	Jane Bennett	Elwood & Katie Ellen Cleaver
8/11	TBA	Cindy Rissmiller	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
8/18	Tara Basta	Ty Rissmiller	Tara Basta	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
8/25	Josh Keck	Kathy Bailey	Jarrett Hahn	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: *(volunteer needed)*

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: *(sponsor needed)*

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Dale Schwoyer

COMMUNION BREAD: 8/4 – Sara Jane Beshore

COMMUNION SET-UP: 8/4 – *(volunteer needed)*

COUNCILPERSON: Dan Pauley

COST: Flowers - \$35.00; Bulletins - \$7.00; Children's Bulletins - \$5.00; Sanctuary Candle - \$15.00

AUGUST 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	3
4 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Fellowship after worship	5 10:00am-Worship & Music Committee Meeting 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	6	7 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting Pastor Ruth out of town until August 13th	8	9 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	10
11 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	12 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting 7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting	13	14 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	15	16 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	17
18 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Harvest Home Service ▪ Fellowship after worship Newsletter Deadline	19 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting 7:00pm-Council Meeting	20 10:00am-Bereavement Support Forum, The Lutheran Home at Topton, Deibert Hall	21 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	22	23 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	24
25 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Backpack Sunday	26 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	27	28 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	29	30 12:45-1:45pm-AA Meeting	31

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Highlights from Assembly 2019

Festival Worship

On Saturday, June 1, approximately 500 delegates and visitors gathered at Genetti Ballrooms Inn & Suites in Hazleton for Assembly 2019. The day began with a Festival Worship Service led by Bishop Zeiser and synod Vice-President Kristen Edelman-Weiner. Service music was provided by Deacon Michael Krentz and a volunteer choir. An offering of \$3,600 was collected for World Hunger.



In his sermon, **Bishop Zeiser** spoke of a "stirring" within us when we recognize the active presence of God in our life. Driven by faith, we become convinced that we "are onto something"; and we then are compelled to see it through. The result is ministry, ministry built on the generations of

Christians who likewise were convinced that they were onto something. However, the past, no matter how great, is sometimes unhelpful for this time. Our theme "Freed in Christ for a New Day" reminds us that it is indeed a new time; and it further reminds us of who it is that got us here, and who will come again.



ELCA Churchwide Representative



The **Rev. Ronald T. Glusenkamp**, Director for "Always Being made new: The Campaign for the ELCA," was this year's ELCA Churchwide representative. Pastor Glusenkamp described the ELCA Churchwide ministry and mission in 2018. This included major efforts in advocacy, candidacy, congregational vitality, Fund for Leaders, World Hunger, global mission, and the Youth Gathering. He shared a video report highlighting these efforts (video link: <https://vimeo.com/332095341>) and also a video greeting from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (video link: <https://youtu.be/TMvRrKF2sg>). Following Pastor

Glusenkamp's presentation, an offering of over \$3,300 was collected for The Campaign for the ELCA.

Bishop Zeiser's Report to the Synod

Bishop Zeiser reviewed some of the mission and ministry of our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod during the past year. He then talked about challenges that the next bishop (to be elected at Assembly 2020) will face. He emphasized that many congregations will be facing challenging situations; and that it is critically important for both congregations and rostered ministers to commit to building a collegial relationship with the new bishop and his or her staff as together they face the immense challenges to come.



More Highlights from Assembly 2019

Luncheon

After the morning session, the delegates and visitors adjourned for a luncheon in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Synod receiving its charter. They enjoyed their meal under a large tent on a beautiful spring afternoon.



Elections

Several individuals were elected to offices in the synod:

Synod Vice President: Kristen Edelman-Weiner

Synod Secretary: The Rev. Carl Shankweiler

Synod Council-Clergy: The Rev. Cheryl Meinschein

Synod Council-Lay Female: Ruth Major

Synod Council-Lay Male: Thomas Engle

Reports from Synod Officers



Kristen Edelman-Weiner

The Assembly heard reports from the synod officers:

Vice President Kristen Edelman-Weiner; Secretary The Rev. Carl Shankweiler; and Treasurer Donald Dillman. The 2020 Spending Plan was adopted with a total budget for next year of \$1,984,400, of which \$869,500 is sent to the ELCA for Mission Support; and \$148,000 is given to various church related institutions such as Bear Creek Camp, United Lutheran Seminary, Muhlenberg College, PA Conference of Churches, and LAMPa.



Rev. Carl Shankweiler

Resolutions

The Assembly adopted two resolutions. The first was a major revision of "Continuing Resolutions" offered by Synod Council to bring them up to date with current practice. The second was a resolution that the Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team address the need for synodical youth leadership; and that this Team work with the Transition Team that will report to the new bishop in 2020.

The 2020 compensation guidelines for pastors and deacons were also adopted.

Assembly 2020, June 4-6

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center Pocono Manor, PA

Plan now to attend. If you are a delegate, you will help to elect a new bishop.
And both delegates and visitors can enjoy the indoor
and outdoor waterparks of this exciting resort.



Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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