

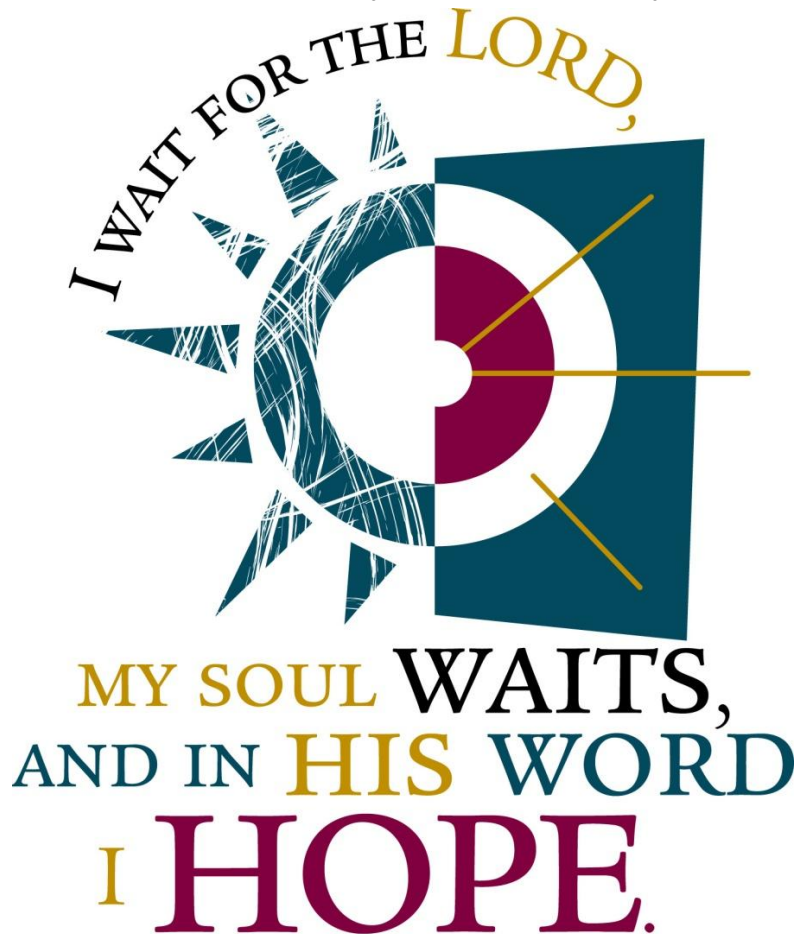
THE GOOD NEWSLETTER
of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church
27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522
Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

E-mail: njelchurch@windstream.net

Website: <http://NewJerusalemLutheran.weebly.com>

Office Phone: 610-682-6064

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



Psalm 130:5, 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.*



Changing Colors

In just a few weeks we will sing, “O Little town of Bethlehem, . . . the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

Not so long ago the color for Advent was the same as for Lent: purple, the color for repentance. Even today, if you look up Advent, some sites still list purple as the traditional color. In many ways purple seems to be appropriate, maybe even especially appropriate for this year.

During Advent we hear from John the Baptist out in the wilderness, calling those who would listen to change their ways, to “bear fruit worthy of repentance.” We meet John baptizing with the “water of repentance.” (Matthew 3:1-11)

While those words were written long ago, there is much today for which we as individuals and a people need to repent. The recent election and its aftermath have exposed so much selfishness, mean spiritedness and even hatred between peoples of this country. People don’t seem to be able to discuss and debate civilly, respectfully. It is obvious that many of our systems are not working well because those involved are looking out more for themselves than for the good of all and especially for the good of the most vulnerable. Yes, purple might be very appropriate for Advent this year.

But some years ago many in the church started visualizing the color for Advent as blue, the color of hope. Why the change?

As Jesus began his ministry, he called for a movement from purple to blue. Mark summarizes Jesus’ message as “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and *believe in the good news.*” The One for whom John prepares calls not only for repentance, but also for hope.

Jesus’ message is especially important for us today. We are called to repent *and* to live in hope. We are called to admit where we have been and are part of the many deep problems in our world today. We are also called to look for, point out and work for signs of hope, signs that the kingdom of God has and continues to come near.

Join with us this Advent and Christmas as we in the little town of New Jerusalem bring our hopes and fears before the One Who wants to hear them. Join us as we bring them to the One Who *can and does* do something with them. Join with us as we discover how God has been and is responding. Then move with us from purple to blue and then to white, the color for Christmas, the color of joy.

*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray:
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 4 – Phillips Brooks*

Advent hope! Christmas joy!

Pastor Ruth



NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at the November 14th meeting:

- A motion was made to switch from Bernville Fuels to Suburban Propane as our propane supplier due to a cost savings.
- In the process of getting bids to replace the back door of the church and repair the water damage in the office.
- At council's request, Nathan Keller, Fire Marshall, and members of the Lyons Fire Company did a safety inspection of the Church and made recommendations on which council is following through.
- George DeLong and Erma Gajewski have agreed to be on the Nominating Committee.
- "Free Indeed", a Lenten devotional, will be purchased from Augsburg Fortress for distribution to families.
- 808 shoo-fly pies were baked for the pie sale in November.
- A motion was made to approve the amendments to the Constitution.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AND FUN

Help us decorate the church for Christmas on **Friday, December 9th, at 6:00 p.m.** Pizza and drinks will be provided. You are invited to come in or bring your pajamas. We will have games, sing Christmas carols, and watch *Polar Express*. Confirmands will also practice for the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

RAJAH SHRINE CHANTER'S CONCERT

A concert will be held on **Sunday, December 11th at 3:00 p.m.** There will be a time for refreshments and fellowship following the concert. If you are able to provide any baked goods or refreshments, please see Sheila Gehman. A freewill offering will also be taken to benefit the Chanter's causes.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOLY COMMUNION

The congregations of Hope, Bowers, Christ Mertz, Dryville, and New Jerusalem Lutheran will be holding a service of Holy Communion and Healing on the third Sunday of every month. The next service will be held on **Sunday, December 18th, at 2:30 p.m. at Hope Lutheran, Bowers.** All are welcome.

If you know of someone who might like to attend, but would need help with transportation, or if you are able to assist with transportation, please speak with Pastor Ruth.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

A Blue Christmas worship service will be held **Wednesday, December 21st, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in Deibert Hall of the Lutheran Home. This service is held as part of a support program for those who struggle to find joy this Christmas and particularly to those who have lost a loved one. The service will be led by Chaplain Colleen Kristula and followed by crafts, refreshment and a time for sharing. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

We invite you to join us at one of our Christmas Eve services as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our **Family Candlelight Service** will begin at **5:00 p.m.** and will be led by our confirmands and youth. Pre-Service Music begins at 8:45 p.m. for our **Traditional Candlelight Service** which starts at **9:00 p.m.** Holy Communion will be celebrated at both services and each service will be followed with a time of fellowship.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Our Christmas Day worship service will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 25th.** Holy Communion will be celebrated.

DECEMBER SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Bulletin sponsor for December 25th.

POINSETTIA FLOWER ORDERS

We will be decorating the sanctuary with red poinsettias for Christmas Eve. If you would like to order any poinsettias, please fill out the order form included in this newsletter and return it with your payment to the church office by **Thursday, December 15th**. The price is \$9.50 for a 6-inch pot.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the January 2017 newsletter is **Sunday, December 25th**. Please have all your announcements and articles to the church office by this date. Thank you!

ANNUAL REPORTS

Reports from the Council President, Worship & Music, Christian Ed, Property, Stewardship, Fellowship & Activities, Mutual Ministry, Special Projects, Communion Set-up, and Altar Guild committees are due to the church office by **Sunday, January 1st**. Thank you!

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

It is that time of year again! In the event that church needs to be cancelled, you can listen to WFMZ, WAEB 790AM, or watch Channel 69 news. You may also call the church office at 610.682.6064 and there will be a recorded message on the answering machine on Sunday morning if the service or any events are cancelled. We also encourage you to call a member that may not have heard about the cancellation.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A special congregational meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 8th**, immediately following worship in order to vote on a new constitution for New Jerusalem. If worship is cancelled, or we lack a quorum, the date will be January 22nd.

Since our current constitution no longer complies with the requirements of the ELCA, we have prepared a new one which will also address some of the issues we have faced with the present one.

Why not do this at the annual meeting? Adoption of a new constitution requires two meetings: one to

vote to accept the proposed constitution, the next, an annual meeting, to confirm that vote.

Please come and help us to finish the process that was begun years ago. Please note that a quorum consisting of **35 voting members** is required for this meeting.

Copies of the proposed new constitution will be available on our website, in the narthex, or can be mailed upon request.

ANNUAL MEETING

New Jerusalem's Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 29th**, immediately following the worship service. If there is inclement weather or quorum is not met, the meeting will be held the following Sunday, February 5th. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the annual reports from the committees, elect new members to council, and take a second vote on the proposed new constitution. Again, a quorum of **35 voting members** is needed. Please invite other members and be sure to join us.

WHO IS A VOTING MEMBER?

All baptized persons on the rolls of our congregation are considered members who are called to join with us in worship and ministry and for whom we continue to care.

According to our constitution and the requirements of the ELCA, a *voting* member is a confirmed member who has communed *and* made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year. Confirmed members may have been confirmed at New Jerusalem or been received through a letter of transfer or profession of faith.

In order to vote in the upcoming congregational meetings, please be sure that we have a record that you received communion *and* made a contribution during 2016 or 2017. The size or type of contribution does not matter, only that we have a record of it. Communion cards, offering envelopes, and receipts for contributions are the ways we track who is a voting member.

Peace on earth will come to stay, when we
live Christmas every day.

—Helen Steiner Rice

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Looking for a unique gift or a way to honor someone? The ELCA Good Gifts catalogue has over 50 suggestions that bring joy to the one honored as well as the ones receiving the gift. Thinking about your honey? Why not contribute some bees. Want something your friend will crow about? Order a rooster. Looking for something sweet? A fruit tree seedling might fit the bill. Something larger caught your eye? Join with others to make that happen. Check out the catalogue for more ideas, then make a donation and put an ornament on our tree.

Extra copies of the catalogue and order forms are available by the tree in the narthex. Cards explaining your gift and extra ornaments to hang at home are also available.

NEW RED ELW HYMNALS

We are now using our new hymnal, the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW). If you would like to honor someone by helping to cover the cost (\$22.50) of one or more of our new hymnals, please use the envelope available found on the table as you enter the worship space. Please indicate in whose memory/honor you are making this gift, or any other inscription you would like on the book plate.

If you would like to purchase a hymnal for yourself or as a gift, please call or sign up in the narthex by December 15th. In order to cover shipping, the cost would be \$25 if we order at least 5.

LOVE OVERCOMES FEAR

As Mary and Joseph searched for a place to stay, hundreds of thousands of our sisters and brothers are searching for a safe place to live. Even citizens of our nation are experiencing hate and violence.

Looking for resources to help you stay informed and make a difference? Check out the ELCA Advocacy site: www.elca.org/advocacy as well as Southern Poverty Law Center, www.splcenter.org and its Teaching Tolerance program.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP SAMUEL ZEISER

A Season of Giving Thanks and Starting Anew

Thanksgiving Day and the start of the Season of Advent are upon us. The entire Synod Staff joins me in wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving holiday, as well as a meaningful new start to the church year while observing the days of Advent.



At the same time, I want to express my personal thanks for the outpouring of encouragement and support in anticipation of my surgery and during this time of recuperation. Thank you to all the individuals and congregations who offered prayers and passed along expressions of support. I will always be grateful.

The surgery and follow-up procedures have gone well. No post-operation radiation therapy is necessary. I am now focused on regaining strength and building up energy. On December 5th I will start anew my ministry responsibilities.

I want to thank also the support staff and the associates who work with me. They have continued to carry out their dedicated work and assumed added responsibilities during the course of my absence. Their steadiness, skill, and commitment to our life together in Christ have made it possible for me to take time away for recuperation.

For you, for me, there is before us a time for giving thanks and starting anew. *Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!* (Isaiah 2:5, Advent 1)

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Samuel Zeiser

CHRISTMAS IS PROOF

Christmas is a time to be happy! ... A time for celebrating and sharing. For God stoops down to be one of us, born as a poor baby so that we can be rich. He does not leave us to get along as best we can. He joins us where we are. God is committed to us. Christmas is proof that God cares. That is why we celebrate — and show our care in turn to those who need it.

—F. Hebart

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

NEWS & EVENTS

in the community

2016 HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

The Friends of the Kutztown Community Library invite you to enjoy their 2016 Holiday House Tour on **Sunday, December 4th, from 12:30-4:30 p.m.** The self-guided tour, themed “Town, Gown & Country,” features six homes. Light refreshments will be served at the library. Tickets can be purchased for \$20 in advance or \$25 the day of the tour at the library and Countryside Farm and Greenhouse (439 Krause Road, Fleetwood).

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bring your children for a Christmas party on **Sunday, December 11th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** at Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers. There will be a visit from Santa Claus, crafts, stories, games, and singing carols. We will also have hot dogs and hot chocolate. For more information, contact the Hope Church office at 610.682.7236.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On **Sunday, December 11th, at 4:00 p.m.** there will be Christmas caroling throughout Topton. Please meet at the park/pavilion by the Topton Borough. There will be music from the Brandywine Heights band and chorus, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, and lighting of the community Christmas tree. At 5:00 p.m. everyone will meet up at Trinity Lutheran Church on Home Avenue for cookies and hot chocolate. Please bring along a non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food pantry. – *Sponsored by the Brandywine Heights Community Task Force*

LOAVES & FISHES MEAL

A free community meal called Loaves and Fishes will be held on **Tuesday, December 20th**, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Topton. The meal will be ham, baked potatoes, pepper cabbage, and dessert. Come out and share a meal and fellowship.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT FORUMS

The Lutheran Home at Topton will be running Bereavement Support Forums the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. They will be held in Deibert Hall, first floor of D-wing. On **December 21, 2016 – Blue Christmas Worship Service** will be held. On **January 18, 2017 – New to Grief: Tear Soup.** Crafts, refreshments and a time for sharing will follow each program or presentation. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

This time of year you may often come across the Salvation Army kettles, but did you know that 90% of the donations to our Kutztown kettles goes directly to help those in emergency need in the Kutztown, Fleetwood, and Brandywine Heights school districts?



Ringers are needed through December 24th. You don’t need to ring the bell – you could play music, sing Christmas carols, or even juggle! Most donors will give more for entertainment – plus it is much more fun to spend the time if you are in a group. Families are welcome! If you are interested, please let Pastor Ruth know. To sign up for a time slot, please contact Rev. Dennis Ritter at 484.529.7801.

HELP & HOPE

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,
the Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,
the Heart of Christmas, which is Love,
the Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

—Ada Hendricks

WISHING EVERYONE A VERY

Merry
Christmas!

OVERCOMING DESPAIR

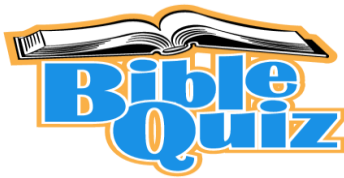
Christmas can be a difficult time for people who are hurting or grieving. In the 1860s, poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow had reason to despair: America was at war with itself, his son was severely wounded in battle and his wife died in a fire. The first Christmas after his wife's death, Longfellow wrote, "How inexpressibly sad are all holidays."

Three years later, on Christmas Day 1864, Longfellow penned a poem that later became the song "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." The lyrics move from despair to hope — and, thanks to Jesus, so can we.

*And in despair I bowed my head.
There is no peace on earth, I said!
For hate is strong, and mocks the song
of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
God is not dead, nor doth he sleep!
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
with peace on earth, good will to men!*

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



Two of the four New Testament Gospels tell in some detail about Jesus' birth. The other two do not. Choose which two Gospels give the Christmas account:

- A. Matthew and Mark
- B. Matthew and Luke
- C. Mark and John
- D. Luke and John



Answer: B

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

Christmas is belief in the past, courage for the present and hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE for Those Homebound or in Care Facilities: Dallas and Anna Angstadt, Cliff Barlet, Samuel Behm, Bertha Bennecoff, Edna Conrad, Jean Deysher, Helen Fair, Dennis Guinther, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, Drena Kocher, Irene Noll, Warren Reinhart, Betty Stoudt, and Arlene Yob.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Members: Beth Angstadt, Myles Angstadt, Lori Eck, Ted Eshbach, Erma Gajewski, Erma Guinther, Amanda Herman, Diane Keller, Penny Keller, Paige Lambert, Sheila Long, Leon Moyer, Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Joanne Pauley, Joyce Rothermel, Jeff Wengert, and Doreen Seaman.

Friends of the congregation: Kathy Adams, Thelma Bright, Evelyn Collins, Richard D., Mark Derr, Kerry Dirsa, Olivia Fenstermacher, Eric Fox, Scott Fox, Sonja Hernandez, Michelle and Jarrett Hertzog, Tara K., Lauren Kinney, Terry and Denise Kiser, Carla Kuser, Chris Masters, Georgene McCool, Lillian Mengel, Robin Naugle, Kyle Olinger, Stacy Price, Faith Rothermel, Charles Sanders, Olivia Schoenly, Christine Schwoyer, Donna Schwoyer, Tom and Pat Snyder, Mazie Soden and her family, Jack Stoudt, Marilyn Timm, Jacki Wagner, Sallie Weil, Denise Wright, and Bishop Samuel Zeiser.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: For our nation, for peace between citizens and those who serve them, for all our military personnel serving around the world, for areas of our nation and the world enduring drought, storms, flooding, and other disasters, for refugees and the countries to which they flee, and for peace in the world, especially the Middle East, the Ukraine and Sudan.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Lester Barlet, Sandy Burkhart, Alice Epler, Denise Haage, Jesus, Corinne Hersh, Luke Paxton, Andrew S., and Theresa S.



**New Jerusalem Lutheran Church
Statement of Accounts
October 31, 2016**

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 15,122.65
Thrivent	6,217.73
Checking	10,491.76
Youth	828.20
Fidelity	131,743.85
Cash Reserve	16,250.15
Mission Investment	11,251.85
Local Care	867.50

**October 2016 – ‘Actual’ vs. ‘Required’
Income**

<u>Income</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Income</u>	
	<u>Per Month</u>		
Operating Expenses	\$ 8,894.75	\$ 10,919.00 *	\$ 2,024.25

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2016 Budget
Passed by Congregation
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution*

** Actual Income Includes:
\$2,700.00 ESTIMATED PROFIT from Shoo-Fly Pie Sale
and
\$1,200.00 ESTIMATED PROFIT from Chicken &
Waffle Dinner*

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

\$ 37,140.00	Total Expenses for Project
\$ 9,013.50	Funds Received to offset expenses

**BRANDYWINE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS LIST
(updated as of October 20, 2016)**

Hamburger Helper, flavored noodles, regular and flavored rice, Suddenly Salad, instant potatoes (mashed, scallop, au gratin), stuffing (turkey and chicken)

Canned Meats: tuna, chicken, spam, ham, treet

Regular and microwaveable Chef Boyardee (mini ravioli, beefaroni, lasagna), Spaghetti-O's

Drinks: instant regular/decaf coffee, regular/decaf coffee, fruit juices (apple, grape, cranberry), juice boxes, hot/ice tea mix (regular and diet), hot chocolate, Kool-Aid/Tang mix, bottled water

Baking Items: flour, sugar (white and brown), vegetable oil

Pancake mix and syrup, cake mixes and icing

Pasta, microwaveable mac & cheese, rice

Condiments: ketchup, mayonnaise, spicy brown mustard, marshmallow fluff, jelly, peanut butter, pickles

Spaghetti sauce, sloppy jo's

Canned vegetables: diced tomatoes, carrots, red beets, sweet peas, lima beans, kidney beans, baked beans, creamed corn, potatoes (sliced, diced and whole), sweet potatoes, peas, carrots (*Please Note: we have an abundance of green beans and mixed vegetables*)

Progresso Soups, ready to serve soups, creamed soups, gravy

Canned fruit: pineapple, apricots, peaches, pears, fruit cocktail

Snack Items: fruit snacks, Goldfish, graham crackers, chips, cookies, crackers, popcorn, pretzels, applesauce, cereal bars, Pop-Tarts, Fiber One bars, Jell-o, and pudding snack packs

Paper Products: paper towels, facial tissues, toilet paper, napkins, paper plates

Personal Care: shampoo, conditioner, shaving items, body lotion, chapstick, baby wipes, diapers, hand wipes, feminine products, deodorant, toothbrushes

Cereal (Please Note: we have an abundance of regular Cheerios, Toasted Oats, and Frosted Flakes)

Sugar free and gluten free items (*we have patrons with special dietary needs*)

Cleaning Supplies: dishwashing soap, disinfectant wipes, disinfectant sprays/cleaners, hand soap, laundry supplies

As a reminder, please check dates on packaging. We are unable to use outdated products.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS
DONATIONS!**

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped serve french fries at the Oley Fair. New Jerusalem received \$600.00 from the profits. We served 1-¼ tons (89 bags) of french fries (just imagine a dump truck filled with french fries). – Virginia Guinther

HOPES AND FEARS

Sacred Christmas carols are a cherished tradition. But during sorrow and struggle, some lyrics may seem hard to swallow. “O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant”? Where is the joy when my loved one has just died? Where is the triumph if I’ve lost my job? “Silent night, holy night, all is calm...”? Not in my house; I’m exhausted from the fighting. “The little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes”? Our baby screams with colic for hours on end.

Yet...listen:

*And you beneath life’s crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low...
Oh, rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing.*

—“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Truly, God reaches out to the happy and hurting alike. “The hopes and fears of all the years are met” — and gathered up — in the Babe of Bethlehem, who shares our joys and troubles. There are Christmas carols for us all.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

Did You Know?

ANGEL

Angel, which means “messenger” in both Hebrew and Greek, is a spirit-being God created to perform tasks for him. In the Bible, angels appear in human form (always as men) to deliver divine messages. Angels appear separately to Joseph and Mary, announcing Jesus’ upcoming birth, and “a multitude of the heavenly host” (Luke 2:13) tells shepherds of the Savior’s arrival. Scripture offers little information about angels, though we know some rebelled against God. Among the holy angels, categories include cherubim and seraphim.



Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



- 3 Sheila Gehman
- 4 Amber Guinther
- 5 Sarah Bailey
- 5 Donna Guinther
- 6 Pastor Ruth Doty
- 6 Amanda Herman
- 6 Johnathan Kepnach
- 6 Vikie Seyfert
- 9 Helen Fair
- 10 Dawn Wengert
- 11 Jennifer Musser
- 15 Randall Cleaver
- 15 Jared Keiser
- 16 Elwood Cleaver, Jr.
- 16 Anna Heffner
- 18 Harold Guinther
- 20 Sheila Long
- 21 Clinton Allen
- 22 David Moyer
- 26 Marleise Matz
- 31 Lori Eck
- 31 David Wartzluft



- 2 Rodney and Diane Keller (44 years)
- 16 Richard and Dana Musser (27 years)
- 18 George and Jeannette DeLong (56 years)

If your name or the name of someone you know didn't appear on this list, we apologize and hope you will let us know so we can make the necessary corrections. Thank you.

THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December

4	10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Advent – Holy Communion (B)
*11	10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Advent (B)
	12:00-2:00 PM	Confirmation Class
18	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)
*24	Christmas Eve –	Holy Communion (W)
	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Family Service
	9:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
25	10:00 AM	Christmas Day – Holy Communion (W)

January

1	10:00 AM	First Sunday of Christmas – Holy Communion (W)
* 8	10:00 AM	Baptism of Our Lord – Holy Communion (W)
		▪ Congregational Meeting after worship
	12:00-2:00 PM	Confirmation Class
15	10:00 AM	Second Sunday after Epiphany (G)
*22	10:00 AM	Third Sunday after Epiphany (G)
	12:00-2:00 PM	Confirmation Class
29	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (G)
		▪ Annual Meeting after Worship

February

♦ 5	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – Holy Communion (G)
		▪ Souper Bowl Sunday Breakfast (served 8:30-9:15 a.m.)
	12:00-2:00 PM	Confirmation Class
12	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany (G)
*19	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday after Epiphany (G)
	12:00-2:00 PM	Confirmation Class
26	10:00 AM	Transfiguration of Our Lord – Holy Communion (W)

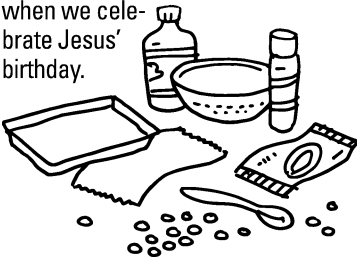
FELLOWSHIP DATES:

- (*) Fellowship after worship
- (♦) Breakfast before worship



birthday bark

Make this yummy treat to give to family and friends at Christmas, when we celebrate Jesus' birthday.



What you need:

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 3 cups chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Spoon or spatula
- 2 Tbsp. shortening
- Baking tray lined with wax paper
- Red and green M&M's (or sprinkles)

What you do:

1. Lightly spray bowl and wax paper.
2. Microwave chocolate chips in bowl for one-minute intervals until chocolate is melted. (Stir after each minute.)
3. Stir in shortening. Heat in 10-second intervals, stirring until smooth.
4. Pour chocolate onto tray and firmly press in M&M's or sprinkles.
5. Refrigerate until firm. Remove bark and break into pieces.



Answer: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23, NIV

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	ACOLYTE	BID THE PRAYERS	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
12/4	Susan Schlenker	Gladys Kline	--	--	Betty Stump	Gladys Kline
12/11	Joshua Keck	Ken Keck	--	--	Keith Boyer	The Wengert Family
12/18	Jeannette DeLong	Roy Merkel	--	--	Dale Schwoyer	Dale Schwoyer
12/24 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	TBA Phyllis Fenstermacher	TBA TBA	--	--	Sara and Olivia Moyer	Gladys Kline
12/25	TBA	TBA	--	--	George & Jeannette DeLong	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: Sara Jane Beshore

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: Katie Ellen and Elwood Cleaver

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Lloyd and Linda Moyer

COMMUNION BREAD: 12/4–Ted & Betty Eshbach; 12/24 5:00 p.m.–Sara Jane Beshore; 12/25–Ted & Betty Eshbach
9:00 p.m.–Sara Jane Beshore

COMMUNION SET-UP: 12/4–Sara Jane Beshore; 12/24 5:00 p.m.–Sara Jane Beshore; 12/25–Sara Jane Beshore
9:00 p.m. – Sara Jane Beshore

COUNCIL PERSONS: Kenneth and Joshua Keck

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

DECEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00am-Worship & Music Committee Meeting 1:30pm-Bible Study, Christ DeLong UCC	2	3
4 Second Sunday of Advent ▪ Holy Communion 12:30-4:30pm – Holiday House Tour, Kutztown	5	6 7:00pm-Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9 6:00pm-Christmas Decorating and Fun, New Jerusalem Lutheran	10
11 Third Sunday of Advent ▪ Fellowship 12:00-2:00pm-Confirmation Class 3:00pm-Rajah Shrine Chanter's Concert ▪ Fellowship after concert 2:00-4:00pm – Children's Christmas Party, Hope Lutheran, Bowers 4:00pm – Community Christmas Caroling, Topton Park	12 7:00pm-Council Meeting 7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting	13 7:00pm-Choir Rehearsal	14	15 1:30pm-Bible Study, Christ DeLong UCC Poinsettia Orders Due to Church Office	16	17
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent ▪ Decorate Christmas Tree after worship 2:30pm-Service of Healing and Holy Communion, Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers	19	20 5:30-7:00pm-Loaves and Fishes Meal 7:00pm-Choir Rehearsal	21 10:00am – Member Care Meeting 11:30am-Fellowship Lunch at Janelle's 6:30-8:00pm – Blue Christmas Worship, Topton Home, Deibert Hall	22	23	24 <u>Christmas Eve Services</u> 5:00pm-Family 9:00pm-Traditional (Holy Communion and Fellowship celebrated at both)
25 Nativity of Our Lord/Christmas Day 10:00am-Worship ▪ Holy Communion 	26	27 7:00pm-Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve



To order red poinsettias for Christmas, please return this form with your payment to the church office by **Thursday, December 15th**. Cost is \$9.50 per 6-inch pot. Thank you!

Qty. _____ Total _____
_____ x \$9.50



PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____

DEDICATION: _____
