

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

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



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 Brothers and Sisters, young and (by years) not so young,

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! – Psalm 118:24

It's July! It's summer! It's definitely a season in which to rejoice and be glad! It is definitely a season in which to play and pray!

We start the month with a holiday, the 4th of July, which is definitely a time for fun and picnics and fireworks. Even if we aren't able to get together with family and friends, just hearing the date or seeing it on the calendar reminds us of many happy times, times for play.

Thinking about our nation also makes us want to pray: "Thank you, God, for our nation. Thank you for the bounty of this land. Thank you for the freedoms we enjoy, freedoms that have been bought and preserved at great price. May we never take these freedoms for granted. We have many concerns about our nation and there are things we desperately want to change so that we will truly be a land with liberty and justice for all. We are concerned about . . . (you fill in the blank). Give us and our leaders the wisdom, conviction, courage and skill to guide our nation to right the wrongs within our boundaries and reach beyond to bring peace, prosperity and justice and . . . Once again, thank you, God, for our nation."

Looking farther in our calendar we remember and envision vacations, swimming, baseball games, volleyball, long summer evenings with time to grill out, enjoy the garden, go for a walk or sit on the porch and visit with friends. During the summer many of us hold back on spending extra hours on work and kids don't have to worry about getting homework done.

*It's summer! It's July!
It is definitely a season in which to play and pray!*

In his Letter to the Philippians, St. Paul encourages us to "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice . . . Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (4:4-7)

It's summer! It is definitely a season in play and pray and our worship schedule reflects this. On July 14th we will gather at Bowers Park for a joint worship service and picnic with our brothers and sisters from Hope, St. Peter's, Christ DeLong, and Christ Mertz. On July 21st we'll follow our worship service at New Jerusalem with another picnic. On July 28th our lessons will be about prayer. We will hear Jesus not only teach us to pray, but also encourage us to relax and trust like little children that God wants to and does hear our prayers.

It's summer! It's July! How will you play this summer, this month? How will you just let go and enjoy the goodness of God's creation? For what will you praise God? For what will you pray?

May each morning you awaken be a time to say, "This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."



Pastor Ruth

NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our council meetings in June:

- A friend of Amy Hahn, Dale DeWald, has offered to donate his services to install security cameras around the church. Research is being done to determine the best camera to suit the church's needs.
- An estimate was accepted from Straub Roofing to replace 2 tiles on the church's roof.
- Property Committee was asked to arrange for the installation of handrails leading up to the altar.

JULY SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Bulletin sponsor for July 28. Thank you to everyone who signed up!

JULY GREETERS SIGN-UP SHEET

A Greeter is needed for July 28. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are able to help. Thank you!

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS GROUP

The next meeting will take place at New Jerusalem on **Tuesday, July 9, at 4:30 p.m.**



OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

Be sure to join us on **Sunday, July 14, at 10:30 a.m.** at Bower's Park for our Outdoor Worship & Picnic with other area churches. After the worship service we will share food and fellowship. There are benches but you can bring along lawn chairs if you like. There will be no worship service at New Jerusalem that day.

BIBLE STUDY continues on **Thursday, July 18, at 10:00 a.m.**

NEW JERUSALEM PICNIC

We will be having our picnic after the worship service on **Sunday, July 21**. Join us for food, fun, and fellowship. Bring a dish to share.

AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the August 2019 newsletter is **Sunday, July 21**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

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.

NEW JERUSALEM FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars to join us on **Saturday, September 14, 2019 from 4:00-8:00 p.m.** for our Fall Festival. There will be chili, hamburgers, hot dogs, snacks, desserts, and beverages for sale. The Majestics, a country and bluegrass band, will be performing from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Stay tuned!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! OLCHOKI STOVE UPDATE

As of the middle of June we succeeded in reaching our goal of collecting the \$2,500 to purchase a stove for the Olchoki Elementary School in Arusha, Tanzania. Thank you to those who helped us reach this goal in less than two years! Thanks to you, over 1,500 students will receive a hot meal each day.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of John E. Keck who passed away on Monday, June 10, 2019. A service was held on Saturday, June 15, at K. V. Knopp Funeral Home.

Thank you

Dear New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, we greatly appreciate your regular donations to the Brandywine Food Pantry! Thanks so much for your support and monetary donation. Sincerely, St. Peter's UCC

“PILLOW CASE DRESSES”

On Mother’s Day, as we read the story of Dorcas (aka Phoebe) who made clothing for widows and orphans, we displayed 16 little dresses made for girls in third world countries. We had learned that if a little girl is dressed nicely, it is less likely that she will be kidnapped for sex trafficking.

Many asked how they could help make more of these simple dresses. Sue Schlenker has made 2 patterns and provided directions for those who are interested. These can be made at home.

Folks can also help by:

- 1) helping us sort and iron the material we already have in our closet downstairs, and/or
- 2) providing material, preferably cotton. The smallest size takes a piece 18” x 40.”

Each dress also needs 20 inches of ¼ inch elastic and 86 inches of double fold bias tape.

If you are interested or have material to offer, please let Sue, Betty Eshbach or Pastor Ruth know.

CONGREGATIONS IN CONVERSATION

Did you catch the notice on the previous page about a Congregational Conversations group? Did you know that the congregations of Hope, Bowers, St. Peter’s, Topton, Christ DeLong, Bowers, Christ Mertz, Dryville, and New Jerusalem have been in conversation for several months about ministry together in this community? At this point we are discussing things that we can do together and that might even include other congregations.

On June 3rd some of the suggestions offered included having a joint choir present a Christmas concert, develop a joint calendar of congregational events, have a community Fall Festival, help each other with fundraisers, and regularly host free community meals service. While we haven’t committed or worked out details to any of these yet, the most exciting thing is, once we got started, the ideas just kept flowing and the only reason we stopped was because our time was up that evening.

Please pray for this group as we seek to discern how God is calling us to serve our community. As an idea comes to you, please tell council members and Pastor Ruth.

WHAT CAN AND WHAT ARE LUTHERANS DOING ABOUT IMMIGRATION?

After hearing yet again news about detention centers where immigrant and refugee children are

being held in unhealthy conditions, this question was posed to me.

Lutherans have been involved with immigration concerns since the founding of our nation, beginning with sending pastors and others to serve those who had come to seek a new life.

Since its founding eighty years ago, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) has welcomed 500,000 migrants and refugees and helped them to rebuild their lives in America. This reflects American Lutherans’ passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need. LIRS currently has 5,900 volunteers and partners with over 100 community-based legal and social service providers nationwide. Check out their website at www.lirs.org.

In addition to LIRS, the ELCA addresses the immigration issue through numerous programs including advocacy, AMMPARO, world hunger projects, and the efforts of local congregations. We included an article in the May newsletter about how funds donated to ELCA Good Gifts are helping Venezuelans who have fled to Columbia.

AMMPARO is the ELCA strategy for **A**ccompanying **M**igrant **M**inors with **P**rotection, **A**dvocacy, **R**epresentation and **O**pportunities. (In Spanish “amparo” means the protection of a living creature from suffering or damage.) Through this program our church supports compassionate care for those crossing the U.S./Mexico border seeking asylum. This includes providing pro-bono Lutheran attorneys and interpreters for the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas. AMMPARO also sponsors the Guardian Angels Program which trains volunteers to provide spiritual and physical accompaniment for unaccompanied children and single-parent families through their immigration court process. as well as being present in court and, if requested, sharing information about local resources to assist in transition to life in the U.S.

Our national church also encourages local communities to become Welcoming Congregations, committed to welcoming and ministering to migrants, praying for justice, and advocating for public policy that will positively impact the current crisis.

While all of these and many other programs are *vital*ly important, we still wonder whether there is something else we can do, like provide hygiene materials.

There may well be, if we do more research to find out things like whether we can partner with churches who are directly involved with immigrants crossing the borders or whether there are ways to help the women and children at the Berks Family Residential Center in Leesport. One of the things listed on the site is that residents of the center are allowed to purchase stamps. *Perhaps* these and other items are things we could consider.

Please share questions, information or ideas, with Pastor Ruth or members of Stewardship Committee.

UPDATE ON ADAM BELL

(From Diane Bell, Jean Deysher's niece)

Our son, Adam, had his Peace Corps swearing-in ceremony last Thursday. He is serving in Zambia, located in the southern section of Africa. Adam will travel to his permanent site in the northwest section of Zambia (borders Angola and The Republic of Congo) this week. He will be there for the next two years teaching the local farmers how to build fish ponds and to raise tilapia fish for their food and economy.

At Diane's request, Adam is on our prayer list. You can follow his blog at: <https://pczaquaculture.com>.



READING PUBLIC MUSEUM DISCOVERY CAMP (Science, Art, History, & more)

Full day themed camp weeks from **July 8-August 23** are available for kids entering 1st-6th grade in fall of 2019. Our ½ day preschool camp is August 26-30 and is for kids ages 3-6 and are potty-trained. To register or for more information, please contact Rebeka at rebekabirch@readingpublicmuseum.org or call 610.371.5850, Ext. 258, or visit their website at www.readingpublicmuseum.org/discovery-camp.

ANNUAL PEACH FESTIVAL

Alsace Lutheran Church, 2201 Kutztown Road, Reading, is holding their annual Peach Festival on **Sunday, July 14, 4:00-8:00 p.m.** Entertainment will be by the Uptown Band and Jeff Krick, Jr. Hot dogs, hamburgers, turkey and pork BBQ, french fries, walking tacos, baked goods, and peaches and ice cream will be served. There will also be games

for the kids. Please bring along lawn chairs to enjoy the music.

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 **July 16, 2019** – *What's It All About? The Tasks of Grieving*. 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.

CAMP NOAH IS COMING, AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

For several years members of New Jerusalem have participated in Camp Noah, a day camp program designed to help children who have experienced trauma or endured disaster to develop resiliency and preparedness skills. Last year we joined Lutheran congregations in Berks County, to host one of the first three Camp Noah programs for Spanish speaking children. What a privilege it was to serve children who had come to Reading following the devastating hurricanes in Puerto Rico!

Given the success and lessons learned from those first camps, Lutherans and others will host Camp Noah August 19 to 23 at the New Creation Church in Philadelphia with the mission of helping children there affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Campers will range in age from 6 to 13. To make this fantastic endeavor a success, we need your help! First, please pray for the children and all those who are working to organize this program.

Next, if you can get to our website,

[Click here for a list of ways to volunteer.](#)

[Click here for other ways to contribute.](#)

However you help, you're impacting the lives of children who need compassion and care now more than ever. Contact Julia Menzo at 267.464.7740 for more information.

Now that camps for Spanish-speaking children have been developed, Camp Noah will be able to reach more children who have experienced trauma, but also be offered in areas where Spanish-speaking families struggle with day to day living.



- 1 Kathy Bailey
- 1 Randy Bennecoff
- 4 Anthony Kepnach
- 7 Carson Seip
- 8 Logan Seip
- 9 Alyse Musser
- 10 Donald Lutz
- 12 Kenneth Keck
- 14 Phillip Litschke
- 17 Maxwell Beshore
- 18 Daniel Bailey
- 18 Richard Bausher
- 22 Rodney Keller
- 23 Dale Schwoyer
- 26 Brian Hess
- 29 Madison Musser



- 9 Jason and Stacey Beshore (25 years)
- 15 Daniel and Sheila Gehman (13 years)

Did you know?

WHEAT

Many of Jesus' parables liken the kingdom of heaven to wheat growing abundantly in a field, as opposed to weeds planted by the evil one. When God "sows" the gospel broadly, some soil produces great crops of wheat (believers, people who become part of God's family); elsewhere, wheat (belief) flourishes briefly or not at all. Wheat also symbolizes the bread of Holy Communion and Christ, the bread of life.



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

May 31, 2019

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 25,159.05
Thrivent	7,840.34
Checking	5,542.58
Youth	404.99
Fidelity	116,652.53
Cash Reserve	28,929.43
Mission Investment	11,393.32
Local Care	1,678.75
Total	<u>\$ 197,600.99</u>

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **May 31, 2018** \$ 203,817.24

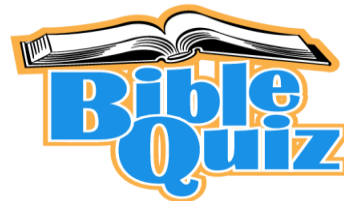
May 2019 – 'Actual' vs. 'Required' Income

	Income Required	Actual	
Income			
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating	\$ 9,077.08	\$ 4,504.00	\$ (4,573.08)
Expenses			

*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
\$ 26,689.54 Funds Received to offset expenses



At the burning bush, Moses asks God's name. What is God's answer?

- A. The Lord
- B. I AM
- C. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
- D. All of the above



Answers: D (see Exodus 3:14-15)



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 Rothermel.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

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

Friends of the congregation: Carrie Bausch, Family and friends of Gary Bausher, Adam Bell, Carson Bosma, Thelma Bright, Justina Campbell, Bill Collins, Earl Derr, Mark Derr, Randy Dreibelbis, Jennifer Engle, Eric Fox, Family and friends of Trey "Joe" Gilardone, Becky Graeff, Mamie Guinther, Family and friends of Cary Hahn, 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, Jackson Radcliffe, Randy S., Pastor Katherine Brearly, 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 Rodriquez, Andrew S., Joshua S., Donna Schwoyer, Jack Stoudt, Jacqi Wagner, and Dennis Wright.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR CIVIC FREEDOMS

As Americans celebrate the birthday of our nation, we give thanks for our civic freedoms of speech, religion, assembly, due process, a speedy trial,

voting and many more. Our freedom has made us the envy of much of the world.

But as with any valuable gift, our civic freedoms can be abused, neglected or underappreciated to the point where, if we aren't careful, they hardly matter anymore.

Lutherans are guided by Martin Luther's insight that we are simultaneously called to be responsible citizens of "two kingdoms" – first, of God's spiritual realm, and second, of earthly governments of people and laws. The synergy of our "dual citizenship" directs us to be good stewards of our civic freedoms.

Freedom of speech: Yes, even hateful speech and lies are protected under our Constitution, but Christians avoid them in obedience to Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves and by the Eighth Commandment, which Luther explains in *The Small Catechism*: "We should fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations." We steward this freedom by speaking honestly and insisting others do, too.

Freedom of religion: Millions of people across the globe, including Christians, face persecution and discrimination because of their faith. We dare not take our freedom for granted but exercise it with joy and defend the rights of others to follow their own consciences.

Freedom from illegal prosecution: Our guarantees of due process in legal, criminal and civil proceedings uphold justice and guard against government misconduct. It works imperfectly, as do all human systems, but as good stewards we fight for justice and the rights for all.

Freedom of self-governance: With its interconnected checks and balances, our three-branch system of government provides stability, accountability and flexibility for change. It's a great system, but it requires us to be informed and involved. We steward this freedom by participating in political processes, voting and insisting on honest government that works for our interests.

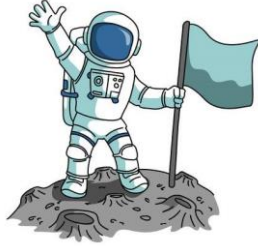
This month, as citizens of both God's spiritual realm and the United States of America, we renew our commitment to be good stewards of the freedoms we are privileged to have.

—Rob Blezard

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WEIGHED DOWN

Many people dream of having the “right stuff” to fly to space. Recently, 18,300 people applied for just 12 astronaut spots at NASA! Fanfare over the moon landing’s 50th anniversary on July 20, 2019 is sure to spark even more interest.



Leaving behind earthly troubles and floating in zero gravity must be amazing, right? Not, it turns out, for one’s body. Weightlessness takes a heavy physical toll in space. Without resistance, muscles waste away and bones weaken. Bodily systems we take for granted are disrupted, causing disorientation. To counteract these effects, astronauts wear resistance suits while exercising. Ironically, after escaping Earth’s gravity, they must replace it.

Similarly, we long for trouble-free days and pray for an end to earthly burdens, not recognizing that exertion, whether physical or spiritual, builds strength. “He who knows no hardships will know no hardihood,” said Harry Emerson Fosdick. “He who faces no calamity will need no courage. ... The characteristics in human nature which we love best grow in a soil with a strong mixture of troubles.”

Every weighty challenge is a reason to “rejoice ... knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope” (Romans 5:3-4, ESV).

—Stephanie Martin

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Donated items in need right now: sugar, coffee, fruit juices, Chef Boyardee style canned items, such as; beefaroni, lasagna, and chili, Hamburger Helper, soups - all kinds, snacks (cookies, chips, pretzels, pudding, etc.), breakfast cereal, oatmeal, pancake syrup and mix, ketchup, cooking oil, beef stew, canned meat (tuna, chicken breast 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, creamed corn, pork & beans, sweet peas, carrots, yams

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

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

Drinks: hot or cold tea, water

Extra: jelly, peanut butter, marshmallow fluff

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

Baking Items: vinegar, cake or brownie mix, frosting

Breakfast Food: oatmeal, pancake mix, pancake syrup

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

July

	7	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
■	14	10:30 AM	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Community Worship & Picnic at Bowers Park
◆	21	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ New Jerusalem Church Picnic after worship
	28	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (G)

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)
	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)
	22	10:00 AM	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
*	29	10:00 AM	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)

FELLOWSHIP DATES:

- (*) Fellowship after worship
- (■) Joint Worship and Picnic at Bowers Park
- (◆) New Jerusalem picnic after worship



PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



What you do:

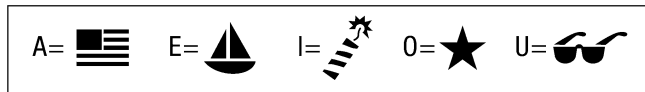
1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!



"IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

Always live "in dependence" on God.

Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.



I k _ _ p my _ y _ s
 I w _ y s _ n th _ L _ RD.
 W _ th h _ m _ t my
 r _ ght h _ nd,
 w _ ll n _ t b _ sh _ k _ n.
 Ps _ lm 16:8, N _ V

Answer: I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV

JULY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
7/7	Tara Basta	Kenneth Keck	Dale Schwoyer	Cheryl Wiltrout
7/14	Worship and Picnic at Bowers Park			
7/21	Josh Keck	Gladys Kline	Susan Schlenker	Susan Schlenker
7/28	TBA	Ty Rissmiller	Richard Carl	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: Sara Jane Beshore

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: Elaine Seip

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Cheryl Wiltrout

COMMUNION BREAD: 7/7 – Amy Hahn

COMMUNION SET-UP: 7/7 – Sara Jane Beshore

COUNCILPERSON: Susan Schlenker

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

JULY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	2	3 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 2:00pm-Cemetery Board Meeting	4 OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day	5 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	6
7 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Baptism	8 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Finance Committee Mtg. 7:00pm-Council Mtg.	9 4:30pm-Congregational Conversations Group, New Jerusalem Lutheran Church 6:00pm-Stewardship Mtg.	10 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	11	12 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	13
14 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am-Community Worship & Picnic at Bowers Park	15 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	16 10:00am-Bereavement Support Forum, The Lutheran Home at Topton, Deibert Hall	17 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	18 10:00am-Bible Study	19 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	20
21 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ New Jerusalem Picnic after worship service	22 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	23	24 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	25	26 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	27
28 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	29 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	30	31 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.			

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

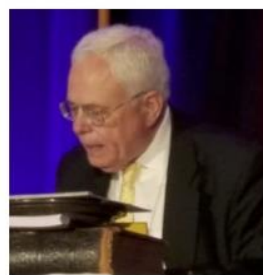
Reports from Synod Officers



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.



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