

**THE GOOD NEWSLETTER**  
of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church  
27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

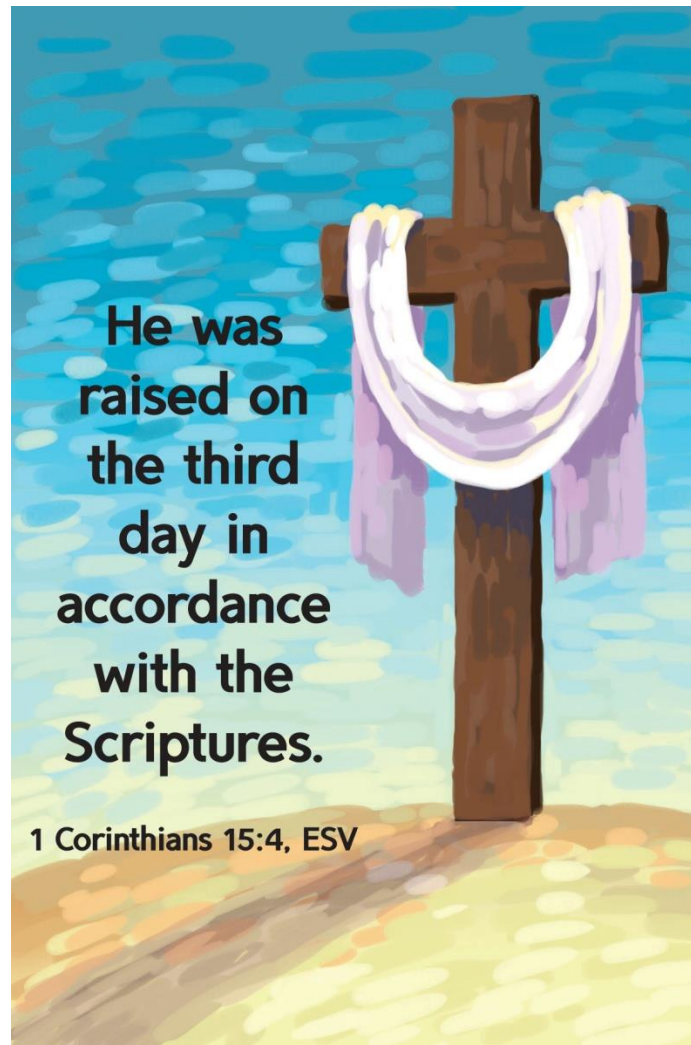
Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

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Office Phone: 610-682-6064

Church Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00a.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 Sisters and Brothers,

Since we have barely started Lent, but Easter will arrive before the end of the month, this is a challenging newsletter to put together. Should there be a black cloth or a white one hanging on the cross? So often we try to avoid the present times, the in-between times, times for reflection. Instead, we want to jump ahead to the next holiday. Barely has school begun than we see ads for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Lent is a time to reflect on the center of our faith: the ministry, suffering, death, and *then* the resurrection of our Lord. In the early church Lent was a time for people who wanted to be baptized to study and prepare to take their places as full members of the family of believers. These people, called *catechumens*, studied the fundamental teachings of the faith in order to be ready to publicly declare in front of the congregation: “I believe!” “I believe in God the Father, Almighty. . . ! I believe in Jesus Christ. . . ! “I believe in the Holy Spirit. . . !” Then, during the darkest hours of the night before Easter, as part of the Easter Vigil, they would shed their old garments, be baptized outside the church, be clothed in new white garments, and, with the entire congregation, enter the darkened church with candles to celebrate the first Easter service and have their first opportunity to commune at the Lord’s Table.

“I believe!”

On March 11<sup>th</sup> our confirmands will travel to Bear Creek Camp to join youth from several other Lutheran congregations on retreat and explore the Apostles Creed where we say “I believe” three times.

“I believe!” we say each Sunday. “I believe! I believe! I believe!” But what does this mean? In a culture which often says, “I believe” when it means “I think”, this can be very confusing.

Early in our studies our confirmands discussed the difference between the questions the Bible and our faith address and those addressed by science and history. Science and history deal with theories about the nature of reality which our senses can perceive, questions about “How much? Which kind? Where? How? When?” When new information comes along, we change what we think. People used to be sure the world was flat, the sun revolved around the earth, or that Pluto was a planet. That’s changed.

The Bible and our faith address different questions, questions about “who” and “why.” Who is responsible for creating and sustaining all of creation? Whom can we ultimately trust and for what? What gives meaning to our lives? Whom shall we serve?

The Apostles’ Creed is a statement of faith, about in whom we put our trust. Trust. *That* is the key word. In the Apostles’ Creed we say that we trust the God we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit: the God who, with great love, created and sustains all that exists; the God who loves each part of that creation, including each of us, so much that God will stop at nothing, not even God’s own suffering and death, to bring all the parts of creation back into right relationship with God’s self; the God who is more powerful than evil and death and continues to work to build community between humans, God and all creation. This is whom we trust with our whole lives, with everything we have. This is the One who gives meaning to our lives.

Let us pray for our confirmands and for each other during Lent, that as we thoughtfully journey through *these* moments of our lives God’s Spirit will help us to deepen our trust in God, so that, in the face of trying times and, especially, on Easter morning we can say, sing and shout, “I believe! I fully trust that in God, goodness *is* stronger than evil, even the evil in which I participate! I fully trust that life in Christ *is* stronger than death! Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!”

Pastor Ruth

Believe!

## U.S.AMEN MISSION TRIP

I was pleasantly surprised when Pr. Doty asked me to write about my mission trip to Costa Rica this past January. My late husband, David Schwoyer, and I joined New Jerusalem in 2004. David and I had discussed joining the senior Peace Corps, but it never came to fruition. So, when a friend of mine started volunteering with the U.S.Amen Mission in Costa Rica, I began to think about joining them.

U.S.Amen was founded in 2002 by Indy Vormbrock as a follow-up to the lifelong AMEN mission work of her late parents, Misael and Amina Lopez. Indy is a Nicaraguan-born U.S. citizen from Houston, TX. Her father began his mission work in Nicaragua and later moved it to Costa Rica. Her mother continued it after his death.

Costa Rica, lying between Nicaragua and Panama, a complete coast-to-coast segment of the Central American isthmus, is a Spanish speaking Roman Catholic nation. With an average temperature of 70° F to 81° F, it has no real summer or winter. It does however have a rainy season from May to November.

I was a member of the “A” Team that goes to Costa Rica after the rainy season to do necessary heavy duty and/or construction work along with sharing the gospel. The gospel is shared via “street-evangelism” and “bible school” for children and adults at *Iglesia Tierra Prometida*/Church of the Promised Land and *Iglesia Christiana de Peters*/The Christian Church of Peters in the very small nearby village of Petres.

U.S.Amen owns property in Grecia [‘gray-shia’] which serves as a central gathering point for the mission teams. All meals are served there. Daily reviews are also shared each evening amid a spirit of fellowship. Housing is provided in Grecia. U.S.Amen built *Iglesia Tierra Prometida*, a small church with an attached Sunday school on the property. Last year they installed “indoor plumbing” to replace “The Vormbrock-Walton”☺. This year the Sunday school portion needed the roof repainted along with cement finishing of the indoor and outdoor walls.

In addition to Indy and Tom, the “A” Team consisted of 19 members of three Houston, Texas Baptist churches; and six of us from Pennsylvania. Team members arrived on Friday, New Year’s Day. Saturday we boarded a catamaran for Tortuga Island in the Pacific, a “Fun Day” for team building. I was one of two new folks.

Sunday we worshipped at *Iglesia Tierra Prometida*. Members of our group, the Martin’s, have a band. All the Texans know some Spanish and had prepared several Spanish hymns for the service. I was able to join in, with the words in front of me and someone next to me with whom I could “lip-read”. It was fun.

I requested to be assigned to “construction”. Nelson had suggested I also try street evangelism because it could really be a new experience, so on Monday morning I went along with the evangelism team and joined the Grecia bible school effort in the afternoon. Tuesday I became part of the cementing crew. We finished cementing by Wednesday, which allowed me to join the Petres Bible school Thursday morning. Friday we organized a field day in the park at Petres. I helped lead finger crocheting of bracelets with beads woven into them.

On Friday evening we worshipped at *Iglesia Christiana de Peters*. The preacher noted our multi-culture aspect. As we sang “How Great Thou Art” in Spanish, I found my PA German self singing

“Wie Gross Du Bischt” during the chorus. Since some of our team sang in English, it was a truly multi-culture moment!

A little more about street evangelism: Since thievery is a very real problem in this area, buildings and yards everywhere are barred. Therefore, one cannot knock on doors. “UPE” [oo-pay] is the term used to announce one’s self as a visitor; which, as street evangelizers, we did from outside the barred entrances.

“Street evangelism” for this English speaking Episcopalian/Lutheran was quite an encounter. Randy would read scripture and our Grecian, Emilio, would interpret. Before we parted, we asked our participants whether they would like to pray, inviting Christ into their lives. Five were interested and willing. One of them, 24-year-old Jesus [hay-suess], provided my “high” of the day. He met us outside the family gate and told us that he had been praying for someone to talk to him about the Lord! Since he did not look well to this ‘ole’ Mum’, you will find him on our prayer list. We conversed with two other men on the street. One of them had quite a discussion with Randy. Like the others, they both prayed willingly before we left.

I thank the Lord for the privilege of having served on the mission trip. I have been invited to return and will be praying about that possibility. I also was surprised to learn that the March “team” is a Texas Lutheran church.

Lieb im Grischdus / Love in Christ,

*Dale*





## WORSHIP & MUSIC INFORMATION

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**EASTER FLOWERS** - The sanctuary will be decorated with beautiful flowers for Easter on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to order any flowers, an order form is included in this newsletter. Please return your order form and payment to the church office by Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**MARCH SIGN-UP SHEETS** - We are in need of the following: Bulletin sponsors for March 6, 20, and 27; an Altar Guild volunteer; and Communion Set-up volunteers for March 20 and 27. Thank you to everyone who signed up.

**APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** is Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.



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**NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN SHOO-FLY PIE BAKE SALES** for 2016 will be Monday through Wednesday, March 28-30; May 2-4, June 6-8, September 26-28, and October 31-November 2. These are the dates that are proposed and are subject to change. Any changes will be announced in the Sunday bulletin and the monthly newsletter. Please call the office if you wish to order any pies. Pies are \$5.00 each.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** - Lately our confirmands have been studying about when the kingdom of Israel was split, when the people of Judah went into exile, and what it means to be a prophet. On March 6<sup>th</sup> we will learn about psalms and the Wisdom literature and the story of Daniel. March 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> they, Pastor Ruth and 5 of our adults will participate in a retreat at Bear Creek Camp, where we will celebrate fellowship and learn about the Apostles Creed.

**UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY** - An updated member directory is available in the narthex. Please feel free to pick up a copy. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the church office. Thank you!

**2015 ANNUAL REPORTS** - If you were not able to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, and would like a copy of the 2015 Annual Report, please notify the church office and one will be mailed to you.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** begins on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to turn your clocks *ahead one hour* before you go to bed Saturday night.



**BOY SCOUT EASTER EGG HUNT** - The Boy Scouts from Troop #585 are sponsoring their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church. It is for children ages 12 and under. This event will be held rain or shine.

**STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING CONFLICT AND BULLYING IN CONGREGATIONS** - Bullying is gaining attention as a problem in our churches. The Northeast PA Synod will be presenting a workshop on Saturday, April 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at The Lutheran Center, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown.

At the workshop you will discuss respect, responsibility and relationships; look at conflict vs. aggression vs. bullying; look at healthy vs. unhealthy conflict, aggression vs. bullying, and relational bullying; provide opportunities for role playing and practice with conflict resolution, as well as with tools for having difficult conversations; and provide strategies to address, stop, and heal from bullying—and open pathways toward reconciliation and respect.

The cost is \$10.00. Deadline to register is Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please see the bulletin board for registration form and further details.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**BIBLE STUDY** will be held at Christ DeLong UCC, Bowers on Thursdays, March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

**LOAVES AND FISHES** free community meal and fellowship will be held on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Topton. The meal will be spaghetti with meatballs, bread, salad, and dessert.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** - Held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12:45 p.m. at New Jerusalem UCC, 33 Lyons Road, Fleetwood.

**OLEY CLUSTER BREAD, BOWL & BIBLE "THE CROSS"** - Sundays, March 6, 13 and 20, 2016, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church, 244 Koch Road, Boyertown. The schedule is as follows:

**March 6** "Making Sense of the Cross" - Rev. Dr. David Lose, President Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

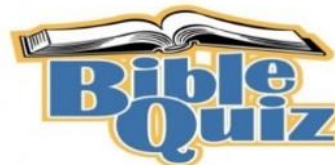
**March 13** - "Unleashed in the Cross" - Rev. Dr. Samuel Zeiser, Bishop of NEP Synod

**March 20** - "Palm and Passion in Addiction and Other Suffering" - Rev. Jack Abel, Director of Spiritual Care for Caron Treatment Centers

**"START THE CONVERSATION"** is a workshop designed to give parents and caregivers the tools to talk to their children about drugs and alcohol at any age. Prevention experts will discuss how and when to start the conversation with the young people in your life. Join us on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, 122 West Franklin Street, Topton. Light refreshments will be served.

**SIGHT AND SOUND BUS TRIP** - The Kutztown Community Library is sponsoring a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theater to see "Samson" followed by a lunch buffet at Shady Maple

Smorgasbord on Tuesday, April 5, 2016. Tickets are \$95 per person and include bus fare, admission, lunch buffet, snacks, and tips. \$65 for 12 years old and under. To register or for more information, call 610-683-5820. Seats are limited so sign up today.



The Gospels tell us that after Jesus died, his body was placed in a rich man's tomb. This man was not one of the apostles, but he believed in Jesus and had become a disciple. He came from a small town not in existence today.



What was the man's name, and what was his hometown?

- A. Joseph of Arimathea
- B. Aristarchus from Thessalonica
- C. Ariel of Moab

The answer is in Matthew 27:57-60



### FROM THE PRAYER COMMITTEE

Dear Lord, as we travel through the sad days of Jesus' crucifixion, let us remember why He went through this (suffering) FOR US. He died so we may have everlasting life. Could we do this for our family? What an act of love and kindness this was!! We thank you Father for giving us your Son to save us.



We rejoice in his resurrection and welcome the word "Hallelujah" back into our worship. Amen.

# Did You Know?

## PELICAN

In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."



## TAKING UP THE CROSS

"That's her cross to bear," it's said of someone's hardship or inconvenience. The challenge might be as serious as poverty or as trivial as crabby neighbors. However, when Jesus called people to "take up their cross," he didn't mean it that way. Nor was he referring to anyone imposing suffering on another.

When Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24 and parallels), he spoke of a radical new way to engage a society that more often called people to take up swords and fight for self-preservation. He called people to peace, not violence—and from being self-focused to following him.



That is also Jesus' call today. The cross isn't a euphemism that lets us dismiss someone's suffering. We don't appoint someone else to bear it. When we choose the cross, we do so for ourselves in response to Jesus' invitation that, one way or another, ultimately leads through death to new life.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

## New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts January 31, 2016

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 16,866.13
Thrivent	6,083.64
Checking	10,723.31
Youth	966.77
Fidelity	128,256.82
Cash Reserve	10,591.63
Mission Investment	11,214.31

### January 2016 — 'Actual' vs. 'Required' Income

<u>Income</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,061.42	\$ 5,974.85	\$ (3,086.57)

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2015 Budget  
Passed by Congregation*

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

\$ 37,140.00	Total Expenses for Project
\$ 3,361.00	Funds Received to offset expenses (through January 2016)



**RELAY FOR LIFE** will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Kutztown University. The Relay for Life Team will be having a Raffle again this year to raise money for the American

Cancer Society. The team is in need of Raffle prizes. There is a paper on the table in the narthex to sign up if you can donate a prize or call the church office. Raffle prizes can consist of anything handmade (wood working items, crochet items, knitted items, etc.) gift certificates, baskets (snack basket, movie basket, etc.) or anything else you would like to donate. Deadline to sign up to donate a prize is March 26<sup>th</sup>. Items must be at church by May 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## BRANDYWINE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS LIST

(as of February 10, 2016)

Hamburger Helper®, flavored noodles, regular and flavored rice, ramen noodles, instant potatoes, (scallop, au gratin)

**Canned Meats:** tuna, chicken, spam

Microwaveable Chef Boyardee® and soups

**Drinks:** instant regular/decaf coffee, instant tea, fruit juices, juice boxes, bottled water

**Snack Items:** fruit snacks, gold fish, pretzels, chips, cookies, snack crackers, salsa

**Baking Items:** sugar (white and brown)

**Condiments:** ketchup, mayonnaise, salt, pepper, pickles, spicy brown/regular mustard, marshmallow fluff, jelly

Spaghetti sauce/pizza sauce

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

**Personal Hygiene:** body lotion, chapstick, baby wipes, hand wipes, feminine products

Gluten free items

**Cleaning Supplies:** dishwashing soap, disinfectant wipes, disinfectant sprays/cleaners

**Please Note:** At the moment we have an abundance of macaroni and cheese, noodles, canned vegetables (especially green beans, corn, and various other beans), soup, canned fruit, peanut butter and cereal.

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



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

## 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, Dennis Guinther, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, Drena Kocher, Irene Noll, Warren Reinhart, Betty Stoudt, and Arlene Yob.

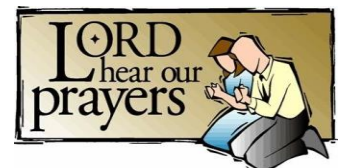
### PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

**Members:** Holly Allen, Beth Angstadt, Myles Angstadt, Lester Barlet, Goldie Carl, Erma Guinther, Amanda Herman, Sheila Long, Leon Moyer, Betty Musser, Joanne Pauley, and Joyce Rothermel.

**Friends of the congregation:** Kathy Adams-Adams & Associates, Sandy Burkhardt, Ruby Burns, Evelyn Collins, Patrick Collins, Richard Dunkelberger, Greta Davis, Alice Epler, Olivia Fenstermacher, Eric Fox, Scott Fox, Jan Garman, Bev Guistewite, Denise Haage, Jesus (Hay-seuss), Douglas Kelly, Brian Kennedy, Pastor Ray Kindler III, Carla Kuser, Melissa Martin, Robin Naugle, Kyle Olinger, Joan Oswald, Luke Paxton, Ron R., George and Ruth Ramsey, Faith Rothermel, Joshua S., Jerry Shukar, Donna Schwoyer, Thomas Sprout, Jack Stoudt, Sallie Weil, Judy Werner, and Lisa Ziegler.

**OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS:** For all our military personnel serving around the world, for areas of our nation enduring drought, storms and flooding, for those throughout the world affected by disaster, for refugees and the countries to which they flee, and for peace in the world, especially the Middle East and the Ukraine.

**LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST:** George DeLong, Ralph Harris, Lauren Kinney, Mae Hertzog, Lucille Jones, Penny Keller, Linda Moyer, and Theresa S.





## DELIVER US

We sing and say “hosanna” every Palm Sunday but hardly ever in between. So what does that word mean?

That first Palm Sunday, crowds spread their cloaks before Jesus as people had before Jehu to proclaim him king (2 Kings 9:13). They waved palm branches in greeting—a traditional sign of celebration (Leviticus 23:40). And, of course, they shouted, “Hosanna!”



This was an exclamation of “a people in distress [addressing] their king or their god,” explains Bible scholar William Barclay. Drawn from Psalm 118:25, *hosanna* is Aramaic for “save now.” By the time of Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Barclay says, *hosanna* may have “become to some extent only a cry of welcome and of acclamation, like ‘Hail!’; but essentially it is a people’s cry for deliverance and for help in the day of their trouble.”

“Hosanna!” is the plea of an oppressed people to the one they recognize as their true king: Jesus, their Savior.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



“This year I’m prepared with my egg-hunting app.”

## MOTORCYCLE MASS



Seminary Paul Theiss is serving an internship at Trinity, Towanda with a special assignment to do mission work in

Susquehanna County. In an effort to do something new and creative, he is planning a “Motorcycle Mass” for the weekend of June 25.

The idea began with Pr. Gunnar Sigurjónsson, a Lutheran pastor and friend in Iceland, who for the past 9 years has been opening his church to the Motorcycle community in his country. In honor of his 10<sup>th</sup> year Pr. Sigurjónsson suggested coming to NEPA to begin a motorcycle Mass here! So he and a group of Icelanders will come this June to help lead and guide the Motorcycle Mass.

The vision and hope is that this will be a worship-centered event focused on bringing people together in the name of Jesus to break down walls and stereotypes: from minorities to ecumenical, cultural, or marginalized peoples. Planned for the weekend of June 25-26, the event will include music, food, and fellowship, all centered around the worship and praise of God.

The hope is to hold the event at St. Paul, Dallas and in the surrounding community in connection with the Dream Ride, a motorcycle ride/fundraiser that supports the Special Olympics which last year raised over one million dollars.

Are you interested in participating? You can share the news with someone you know who rides; or you can volunteer to grill, work on a flyer, provide music, or help to organize the event. You may contact Vicar Theiss by phone at 830-305-1161 or by email at [paulbtheiss@gmail.com](mailto:paulbtheiss@gmail.com).



Dear Church Family, words cannot express all of our thanks and love for your care of mom and our family at dad's passing. We are eternally grateful for your ministry in spirit and in person. Dad loved his church, as does Mom. Thank you for your love, support, and Christ-like ministry. Your in Christ, Patrick and Gail Fenstermacher (Karl and Phyllis's son and daughter-in-law)

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Thank you for your donation of 16 Christmas gifts for children of our pantry clients and 5 Holiday Dinner Boxes. Your donations helped to make this past Holiday season a little brighter for those in need.—From the clients and staff of Friend, Inc. Community Services

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Who would have thought that one gift could touch the lives of so many? Your help means hope for the children, adults, families we serve and will be used to:

- find special needs children a loving home through Diakon Adoption and Foster Care
- provide residents with compassionate care in our senior living communities – many receiving uncompensated care
- allow individuals and families to receive the help they need from our congregation and community-based services

On their behalf, and from us, thank you for your gift of \$200.00 to Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries – The Lutheran Home at Topton through the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod for December 2015. Each year, Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries serves thousands of children, families, youths and older adults with many hands, one heart. May God bless you for your financial support and spiritual encouragement.—Sincerely, MaryEllen Dickey, Senior Vice President of Advancement

Dear New Jerusalem Church, I am writing on behalf of The Salvation Army Hamburg Service Center to express our sincere appreciation for your recent donation of \$200.00. Your gift and support of The Salvation Army will help us to **“Do The Most Good”** with skill and compassion all year long. It will enable Friends, Inc. of Kutztown, PA to administer these funds to provide emergency services to those living and needing a ‘Hand Up’ in the following zip codes–19511, 19522, 19530, 19536, 19539, 19564. Again, thank you for your generous contribution and your continued support of The Salvation Army Hamburg Service Center and our Ministry.— Blessings, Cathy Correll, Office Coordinator and Caseworker

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Dear Pastor Doty and members of New Jerusalem,

On behalf of Lutheran Congregational Services, I want to thank you for your generous contribution of various household items in support of our refugee resettlement program. Your contribution will be used to assist newly arrived families in the Lehigh Valley.

Refugees come to the U.S. having fled their home country, due to war, ethnic or religious persecution, sometimes arriving with just the clothes on their back. Every item donated helps to give them a warm welcome and get off to a good start in their new life in the Lehigh Valley.

All contributions to our Refugee Resettlement Program will be well used and are gratefully appreciated. With the help of caring communities, we can fulfill our mission to welcome the stranger. — Sincerely, Marla J. Sell, Refugee Resettlement Services.



At their February 22<sup>nd</sup> council meeting, council:

- considered what it means to be a prophet of God;
- approved the audit report for 2015 as prepared by Denny Beshore and Larry Dey;
- helped the pastor consider ways to reach out to members who have contributed in 2015; but for whom we do not have a record of having communed in that year;
- approved plans for the display which will track our progress on repaying funds the congregation borrowed from cash reserves to repave the parking lot;
- accepted the resignation of Horace Rothermel as sexton for the congregation and planned how to secure a new employee for that position;
- assigned council members as liaisons to the various committees of the congregation;
- received an article about the Crisis of Payday Lending and information about an upcoming workshop on how to deal with conflict and bullying in congregations;

Council members will be participating in the following upcoming meetings:

2/28 - Discussion of council responses to the recent Congregational Vitality Survey which was part of our annual report to the ELCA

3/5 - Congregational Council Training Workshop to be held at Hope Lutheran, Bowers.

At the Annual Meeting held on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, the congregation reviewed the reports from the committees. Also, members of the congregation that were elected to serve on council are Gladys Kline and Daniel Pauley.

Council members continuing to serve are Betty Eshbach, Ted Eshbach, Sheila Gehman,

Joshua Keck, Ken Keck, Linda Moyer, Ty Rissmiller, Susan Schlenker, Dawn Wengert, and Cheryl Wiltrout. The following members were elected as New Jerusalem's council officers for 2016: Ty Rissmiller, President; Kenneth Keck, Vice President; and Dawn Wengert, Secretary.



3	Linda Guinther
10	Tammy Barlet
13	Judith Kemmerer
18	Sara Moyer
19	Lucille Jones
21	Cynthia Rissmiller
24	Daniel Boyer
25	Elise Barlet
25	Barbara Johnson
25	Lillian Jones
26	Donald Gajewski
28	Jerry Keller



26 Lester and Tammy Barlet (28 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

### March

* 2	7:00 PM	Lenten Midweek (P) – <b>Christian Congregation, Mertztown</b>
* 6	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday in Lent – Holy Communion (P)
* 9	7:00 PM	Lenten Midweek (P) – <b>Christ-Mertz Lutheran Church</b>
13	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday in Lent (P)
*16	7:00 PM	Lenten Midweek (P) – <b>St. Peter's UCC, Topton</b>
*20	10:00 AM	Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday – Holy Communion (P)
*23	7:00 PM	Lenten Midweek (P) – <b>St. Paul's Lutheran, Mertztown</b>
24	11:00 AM	Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion (P)
	& 7:00 PM	<b>(both services at Christ-Mertz Lutheran Church)</b>
25	11:00 AM	Good Friday
	& 7:00PM	<b>(both services at Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers)</b>
27	10:00 AM	Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day – Holy Communion (W)

### April

* 3	10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Easter – Holy Communion (W)
10	10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Easter (W)
*17	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Easter (W)
24	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday of Easter (W)

### May

* 1	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday of Easter – Holy Communion (W)
◆ 8	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday of Easter (W) ▪ Mother's Day Breakfast (served 8:30-9:00 a.m.)
15	10:00 AM	Day of Pentecost – Holy Communion ®
*22	10:00 AM	The Holy Trinity – Holy Communion (W)
29	10:00 AM	Second Sunday after Pentecost (G)

#### FELLOWSHIP DATES:

- (\* ) Fellowship after worship
- (◆ ) Breakfast before worship



## LITTLE LAMBS

Make these cute treats as a reminder that Jesus our Savior is also the Lamb of God.

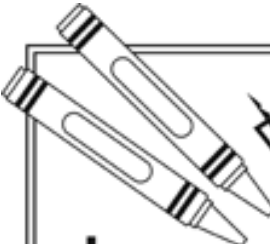


### What you need:

- Vanilla cupcakes
- Vanilla frosting
- Butter knife
- Mini marshmallows
- Jellybeans
- Red licorice

### What you do:

1. Bake and frost the cupcakes.
2. Place marshmallows around the edge of each cupcake.
3. Cut green or blue jellybeans in half and place two on each cupcake as eyes. Cut pink jellybeans in half and place one below each pair of eyes as a nose.
4. Cut thin strips of licorice, and place one on each cupcake as a mouth.
5. Enjoy!



# PUZZLE

## Lamb of God

✂️ John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah – and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus. ✂️

*Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40	41	42

## **MARCH SERVICE ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GREETERS</b>	<b>READERS</b>	<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>BULLETINS</b>
3/6	Kathy Bailey	Sara Jane Beshore	Gladys Kline	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
3/13	Gladys Kline	Dawn Wengert	Lucille Jones	Cheryl Wiltrout
3/20	Tara Basta	Cindy Rissmiller	The Rissmiller Family	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
3/27	Joshua Keck	Ty Rissmiller	Gladys Kline	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

**ALTAR GUILD:** *(volunteer needed)*

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS:** Lucille Jones

**SANCTUARY CANDLE:** Dale Schwoyer

**COMMUNION BREAD:** 3/6 – Cheryl Wiltrout; 3/20 – Gladys Kline; 3/27 – Dale Schwoyer

**COMMUNION SET-UP:** 3/6 – Cheryl Wiltrout; 3/20 – *(volunteer needed)*; 3/27 – *(volunteer needed)*

**COUNCIL PERSON:** Linda Moyer, 610-641-9349

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

# MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30pm-Bells 7:30pm-Senior Choir	2 7:00pm-Community Lenten Service, Christian Congregation, Mertztown	3	4 	5 9:30am-12:00pm- Congregational Council Training Workshop, Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers (snow date 3/19/16)
6 Fourth Sunday in Lent ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Fellowship after worship ▪ Relay for Life – Candy Fundraiser Delivery  12:00-2:00pm-Confirmation Class and Sunday School  4:00-7:00pm-Bread, Bowl & Bible, St. Joseph's (Hill) Church, Boyertown	7	8 <b>NO BELL CHOIR</b>  7:00pm-Senior Choir	9 7:00pm-Community Lenten Service, Christ- Mertz, Dryville	10 1:30pm-Bible Study at Christ DeLong UCC, Bowers	11 Confirmation Class Retreat at Bear Creek, March 11-13	12 Confirmation Class Retreat at Bear Creek, March 11-13
13 Fifth Sunday in Lent 4:00-7:00pm-Bread, Bowl & Bible, St. Joseph's (Hill) Church, Boyertown  <b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b>	14 7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting	15 5:30-7:00pm-Loaves and Fishes Meal  6:30pm-Bells 7:30pm-Senior Choir	16 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Janelle Hall  7:00pm-Community Lenten Service, St. Peter's UCC, Topton	17 6:30-8:30pm-"Start the Conversation" Drug and Alcohol Workshop, St. Peter's Church, Topton	18	19 12:00pm-Boy Scout Easter Egg Hunt at New Jerusalem
20 Passion/Palm Sunday ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Fellowship after worship  12:00-2:00pm-Confirmation Class 4:00-7:00pm-Bread, Bowl & Bible, St. Joseph's (Hill) Church, Boyertown	21 7:00pm-Council Meeting	22 6:30pm-Bells 7:30pm-Senior Choir	23 7:00pm-Community Lenten Service, St. Paul's Lutheran, Mertztown	24 <u>Maunder Thursday</u> 11:00am-Christ-Mertz Lutheran, Dryville 7:00pm-Christ-Mertz Lutheran, Dryville	25 <u>Good Friday</u> 11:00am-Hope Lutheran, Bowers 7:00pm-Hope Lutheran, Bowers	26
27 Resurrection of Our Lord ▪ Holy Communion	28  Shoo-fly Pie Bake -->	29 6:30pm-Bells 7:30pm-Choir  ----->	30  ----->	31 1:30pm-Bible Study at Christ DeLong UCC, Bowers		

# EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

(Daffodils, Hyacinths, Lilies, Mini Daffodils, Tulips)

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ ENV. # \_\_\_\_\_

DEDICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Qty.</u>		<u>Cost</u>		<u>Total</u>
Daffodils (8" pot)	_____	X	\$8.50 =		_____
Hyacinths	_____	X	\$7.50 =		_____
Lilies	_____	X	\$9.00 =		_____
Mini Daffodils (6" pot)	_____	X	\$7.50 =		_____
Tulips	_____	X	\$7.50 =		_____

Total Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK ONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *I will pick up my flowers after the Easter service*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Please donate my flowers to a homebound member*

**Please return this form with payment to church office  
or offering plate by Sunday, March 13th.**