

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

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Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Wednesday 9:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.



The LORD has
set apart his
faithful
servant
for himself.

Psalm 4:3, NIV

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,

This is the month many of us remember our mothers and those who were like mothers to us. “Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother’s Day is the early Christian festival known as ‘Mothering Sunday.’” (www.history.com) The modern U.S. celebration of this day was started by Anna May Jarvis as a way to recognize and thank mothers for the sacrifices they made for their children.

I happen to be starting this article on April 3rd which also happens to be Equal Pay Day. It signifies the additional number of days into 2019 that the *average* woman in the U.S. had to work to earn as much money as men did in the 2018 calendar year. We say *average* because not every woman is of the same racial background and sexual orientation and that makes a difference. Women of Asian or Pacific Islander background took fewer days in 2019 to earn as much as men did in 2018. Those of African American, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native heritage will take longer, some not “catching up” until the middle of September.

In God’s eyes, however, there is and should be no difference between the opportunities men and women have to be forgiven, to serve the Lord, and to be recognized for the way their lives show us what it means to live out God’s love. St. Paul reminds us that in Christ there is no longer male or female, slave or free.

Since much of scripture was written during times when society was very patriarchal, the majority of the stories focus on men. However, the stories of women and their importance in the family of faith are there from the very beginning. Think of Sarah and Rachel, Deborah, Naomi and Ruth, Elizabeth and Mary, Mary and Martha and Mary Magdalene. Our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* book now includes a hymn entitled “For All the Faithful Women” which mentions 6 more. I’m not sure whether the author stopped there or the hymnal committee decided that was all the space it had.

The New Testament lessons we will hear and read this month include stories about Dorcas (Tabitha) and Lydia, women Paul met on his missionary journeys. Dorcas was remembered in Joppa, on the coast of Israel, for expressing her faith and love in many works of charity, most especially for all the clothes she made for widows and their families. Lydia was an important person in the business community of Philippi, Greece, who became a believer in Jesus. She not only asked Paul to baptize her and her household but offered him hospitality and urged him to stay at her house. You can find their stories in Acts 9:36-43 and Acts 16:9-15.

Observing Mother’s Day reminds us to recognize the importance of women who not only have or still act like mothers to us, and to honor and thank them, not just on one day, but throughout the year. It also reminds us to be aware of and thankful for *all* those, male and female, who, in their own unique ways, care for others and for our society and world. May the days like Mother’s and Father’s Day also encourage us to work for justice in how all people, and especially caregivers, are recognized *and* paid. May they also remind us that no matter our gifts and efforts, no matter whether or not they are recognized by others, they are still important to God’s kingdom.

*O God, for saints and servants, those named and those unknown,
in whom through all the ages your light of glory shown,
we offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise
that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.*

– Herman G. Stuempfle

Pastor Ruth

NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our council meeting on Monday, April 8:

- 748 shoofly pies were baked at the March bake. A profit of \$3,600 was made.
- Council members are gathering pricing and information on purchasing a security camera for outside the church.
- AED dedication will take place during worship on Sunday, May 19 and a brief training will be held after worship.

MAY SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Flower sponsor for May 19, Bulletin sponsors for May 5, 19, and 26, a Children's Bulletin sponsor, and a Communion Set-up volunteer for May 5. Thank you!

MAY GREETERS SIGN-UP SHEET

Greeters are needed for May 5, 19, and 26. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are able to help. Thank you!

PASTOR RUTH WILL BE ON VACATION APRIL 26 THROUGH MAY 10

Pastor Althea Albright will be on call for any pastoral need or emergency. Her number is 484.345.0399.

LAST BELL CHOIR AND ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL will be on Tuesday, May 7.

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Join us on **Sunday, May 12, from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.** as we celebrate mothers and other special women in our lives to a delicious breakfast. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex if you would like to donate any food for the breakfast.

CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY

We will be holding our Church Music Sunday service on **Sunday, May 12**. Please come out and support our singers and musicians. If anyone is interested in providing music for this service, please see Faye Dey.

FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

Mark your calendars to join us on **May 19th** and **June 9th** for a fun exploration of our holy history. In May we'll explore the story of Ruth, make granola and do a craft involving grains. June brings us to the story of David and Goliath. Phyllis has a song to share. You'll have to come to find out what other activities we've got up our sleeves. While we'll be taking a break for July, be sure to mark August 25th for Backpack Sunday.

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the June 2019 newsletter is **Sunday, May 19**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on **Monday, May 27**, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

DAY OF PENTECOST FLOWERS

Our sanctuary will be adorned with red geraniums in celebration of the Day of Pentecost on Sunday, June 9. If you would like to order any geraniums, an order form is included in this newsletter and there will be extra forms on the greeter's table in the narthex.

Please have your order form and payment to the church office by Sunday, May 26th.



BIBLE STUDY WITH FRIENDS continues on **Thursday, May 30, at 10:00 a.m.**

SHOOFLY BAKING

The shoofly bakes for April 29, 30, and May 1, and June 2, 3, and 4 have been cancelled. We just don't have enough help at present and many who have been helping are dealing with health issues. If we can get enough help, we will resume baking in September. If you can help a couple of hours a day, please contact Cheryl or Gladys.

ON A SPECIAL NOTE: As of Sunday, April 21, 2019 a total of **\$26,369.54** has been contributed towards repaying back paving of the parking lot.

NEW SONGS AND OLD

I don't remember which radio program it is, but one often reminds listeners that "all music was new once."

As we celebrate Church Music Sunday this month, members of the Worship and Music Committee would like to know which hymns—old or new—you would like to sing. Each time we do our planning, we do our very best to choose hymns that will not only go with the lesson and themes for a particular worship service but will also enhance the worship experience of those in attendance.

Sometimes we get feedback that people wish we'd sing hymns they find particularly meaningful. Since we have not yet learned how to read minds, we need some help. Please take some time to look through the hymnals in the pews and let us know in writing, what you wish we would sing more often. Submit suggestions as many times as you would like. (There is always paper at the greeter's station you can use.) Place your suggestions in the offering plates, give them to an usher, send them to the office, etc.



We collected suggestions several years ago and have actually made sure we used those in our planning.

Members of the committee include: Amy Hahn, Elaine Seip, Ted Eshbach, Sara Jane Beshore, Faye Dey and Pastor Ruth. New members are always welcome.

Pastor Ruth

ADDRESS CHANGES TO OUR MEMBER DIRECTORY

Effective April 27, 2019, the following address changes will occur for the following members:

Lucille Jones
30 Home Road, Apt. 313
Topton, PA 19562

Tara Basta
30 Home Road, Apt. 204
Topton, PA 19562

Betty Musser
45 Home Road, Apt. 401
Topton, PA 19562



New directories will be available after this date or feel free to make these changes to your current directory.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE LITTLE LIBRARY located just off our worship space. There you will find a small bookshelf with items we received during our Book Fairs. To borrow a book, simply write down its title and your name. If you would like to order one for yourself or someone else, simply fill out the form and put it in the office. You can either pay up front or when it is delivered.



GOOD NEWS ABOUT GOOD GIFTS: SUPPORTING VENEZUELAN IN COLUMBIA

The news from Venezuela is so disheartening. Over one million have left their homes and possessions and are risking their lives in search of a safe, secure place to live. Those who have fled to Columbia face new challenges: limited access to basic services, exploitation in work environments, instability in their immigration status, prejudice, etc. But did you know that our gifts to the Lutheran Disaster Response are helping these refugees?

Some, like 30-year old Davids Ramon Aguado and his father, have been assisted by host communities supported by the Lutheran World Federation in Columbia. Here they receive access to water, health care, shelter and psychosocial support offered to both Venezuelans and Columbians.

For other stories about how our donations to the ELCA Good Gifts are making a difference around the world, check out the newsletter on the bulletin board.

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are of an age (70 ½ and older) where you are required to take minimum distributions from savings products (e.g. many IRA's, 401Ks, 403Bs), you may be able to give any amount up to \$100,000 to a charity, with the donation counting towards your required distribution. The tax benefit to you is that you can deduct the full amount of the donation from your gross income for tax purposes. The money must be directly transferred from the plan administrator to the charity.

Check with your plan administrator for more details.

"Kindness is like a garden of blessings."



—Sirach 40:17

STARTING THIS FALL: HELP IN MAKING DECISIONS FOR LIFE

Our Faith Formation team is planning a series of information and discussion meetings starting this fall through which members and friends can explore and encourage one another to face important decisions for their adult lives. Topics will include:

1. **Legal Issues** – including wills, powers of attorney, etc.
2. **Financial Concerns**
3. **Health and Medical Concerns** – including health directives
4. **Housing Concerns and Options**
5. **Grief** – including that involved in a variety of losses, not just death
6. **End of Life Celebrations/Funerals**

Since we will be looking for outside speakers for each topic, we would welcome suggestions of people who have some expertise in any of those areas but would not be trying to sell their services or a product. Please share your thoughts with a member of the team which includes Cindy Rissmiller, Phyllis Fenstermacher, Dawn Wengert, Elaine Seip, Diane Keller, and Pastor Ruth. We will explore grants to cover a stipend if speakers request one.

ADAM BELL IN ZAMBIA

We just received a family update from Diane Bell, Jean Deysher's niece.

My son and Jean Deysher's great nephew, Adam Bell, was accepted into the Peace Corps.

He left at the beginning of the month to serve in Zambia, Africa for two years. His first three months are instruction in dialect and job training in aqua agriculture (fish raising in clean water). During this time he lives with a host family; after the training period he moves to the countryside. The area where he will live is very rustic to US standards; most homes do not have indoor plumbing, occasional electricity with generator use and limited internet/phone service. He is issued a bicycle as his form of transportation.

Will you please keep him in your prayers?

Happy Easter to all the New Jerusalem members.

Fondly, Diane Bell

Adam's picture is on the bulletin board. We are adding Adam to our prayer list and think of him as our missionary/ambassador for peace.

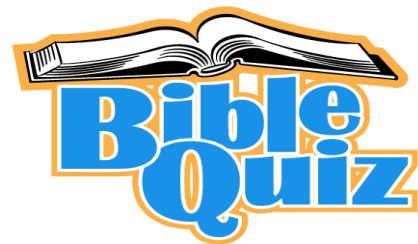
Thank You

THANK YOU TO OUR BOY SCOUTS for cleaning our upholstered seats on April 6th.

Dear Friends at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Please accept our most heartfelt appreciation for your gift of \$500 to Operation Bootstrap Africa (OBA). Your gift supports a lunch program for students at Olchoki Primary School in Arusha, Tanzania. Your generous gift brings hope to people who have few opportunities in their lives—thank you! We look forward to your continued support of OBA and our partners in Africa. In service to the people of Africa, *Jason Bergmann, Executive Director*

DON'T FORGET THE OLCHOKI CHALLENGE

We are so close to reaching our goal of fully funding one of the stoves that provides the lunch program mentioned above! Since all donations received by August 1st will be matched, we only need to collect \$300 to reach \$2,500, the cost of one stove. Contributions can be made via special envelopes available on the greeter's table, offering envelopes or regular envelopes. Be sure that "Olchoki Stove" is clearly designated.



Though daughters weren't allowed to inherit property, some young women whose father had died appealed to the community's leaders to change the law in their favor—and it was done! Who were these women?

- A. Mary and Martha
- B. The daughters of Zelophehad
- C. Nympha, Sapphira, Claudia, Tabitha and Lydia
- D. Joanna, Susanna and Salome



DID YOU KNOW?

MOTHER'S DAY

According to www.history.com:

- ♥ Mother's Day was once a major tradition in parts of Europe and was celebrated on the 4th Sunday in Lent when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service.
- ♥ The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.
- ♥ These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.
- ♥ Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.
- ♥ The official Mother's Day holiday in the U.S. came about in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis after her mother died. Anna herself remained unmarried and childless. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. In 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.
- ♥ Anna Jarvis originally thought of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families, but by 1920 she became disgusted with how commercialized it had become and by the time she died (1948) she had disowned the holiday altogether.

THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST

On Thursday, May 30, 2019, many denominations will observe the Ascension of Christ. The day focuses on the account given in Acts 1:6-11. In that passage we read that Christ told his friends that they would be receiving the Holy Spirit and the experience would give them the power to be his witnesses. Afterward, he was "lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9, NRSV).

There are several lessons we can draw from this event:

1. The risen Christ is not with us physically, but wherever we are, Christ's Spirit is present as our guide and strength.
2. Christ is an intercessor on our behalf before God (Hebrews 7:25).
3. The Resurrection and the Ascension are conclusive proof that Jesus is Lord and King. He has defeated sin and death, and lives forever as our companion, supporter, friend and Savior.



— Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

THE LIVING WORD

Many know of teacher Annie Sullivan helping young Helen Keller break through barriers of blindness and deafness to discover language: how Sullivan placed one of Helen's hands under running water, spelling *water* in sign language over and over into the other. In Keller's words: "Suddenly I felt a misty consciousness as of something forgotten—a thrill of returning thought; and somehow the mystery of language was revealed to me. I knew that w-a-t-e-r meant the wonderful cool something that was flowing over my hand. That living word awakened my soul, gave it light, hope, joy, set it free."

God's living Word, working through the waters of baptism, also awakens us—to a life of faith anchored in God's unconditional love. Baptism revives in us a "misty consciousness" that we are safe in God and reveals "the mystery of language" that is prayer. In baptism, as water washes over our bodies, the living Word gives us light, hope, joy and true freedom.

— Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

NEWS & EVENTS

in the Community

FREEBAY TIME!

Fleetwood Bible Church, located at 2847 Moselem Spring Road, is holding their bi-annual event where they assist families that may need some extra help. Everything is free, just like our Yard Shares that we have held here at New Jerusalem. This event will be held on **Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon**. They will be accepting donations of clothing, books, toys, videos, and limited household items on Thursday, May 9, and Friday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. All items that are not picked up will be donated to the Reading Rescue Mission.

CELEBRATING A MOTHER'S LOVE

When you have lost a child, Mother's Day is an extremely difficult holiday. This event is to share in the highs and lows of losing a child while celebrating Mother's Day. Please join us on **Saturday, May 11, from 12 noon to 3 p.m.** at Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 10. Call 610.682.4970 for more information and to reserve your tickets by May 5. Lunch includes assorted sandwiches, soup, snacks, beverages, and dessert.

THEOLOGY WITH A TWIST

On **Tuesday, May 14, at 7 p.m.** Held at the Kutztown Tavern, 272 W. Main Street, Kutztown. Food and drink are available for purchase.

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 **May 21, 2019** – *Just Not Getting Over It: Depression and Complicated or Unresolved Grief*. 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.

APPLY TO BE A CENSUS TAKER FOR 2020

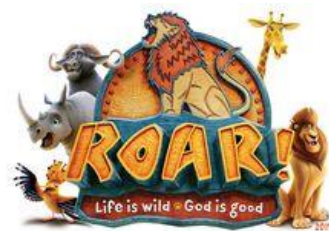
Census jobs provide great pay, flexible hours, weekly pay, and paid training. Apply online at www.2020census.gov/jobs. For more information or help applying, please call 1.855.JOB.2020.

ANNUAL FAITH NIGHT AT COCA-COLA PARK

Coca-Cola Park will be hosting Faith Night when the Iron Pigs vs. the Mets on **Wednesday, May 22, at 7:05 p.m.** at Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown. And performing in the plaza from 5:45-7:00 p.m. will be the praise band "Blend." Tickets are \$8.00-\$11.00 and can be purchased at <https://groupmatics.events/event/Evangelicalluthera>. You can also contact Billy Misiti at 610.841.1237. The Syracuse Mets will be featuring notable athlete, Tim Tebow.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

This year, VBS will be held at Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, Dryville, from **June 24-28** with supper at 5:30 p.m. and ending at 8:30 p.m. The theme for this year is "Roar – Life is Wild! Life is Good!" Keep on the lookout for more information to come.



- 2 Derick Wartzenuft
- 4 Dana Wartzenuft
- 7 Erma Gajewski
- 8 David Moyer, Jr.
- 15 Sharon Guinther
- 15 Susan Schlenker
- 16 Jason Hess
- 22 Daniel Gehman
- 26 Nancy Esbenshade
- 26 Joshua Keck
- 26 Olivia Moyer
- 28 Cristy Herman



- 17 Donald and Erma Gajewski (39 years)
- 20 Blane and Jennifer Musser (19 years)

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

March 31, 2019

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 25,159.05
Thrivent	7,840.34
Checking	6,437.30
Youth	404.99
Fidelity	137,592.69
Cash Reserve	13,404.43
Mission Investment	11,367.51
Local Care	1,643.75
Total	<u>\$ 203,850.06</u>

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **March 31, 2018** \$ 204,837.60

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

	Income Required	Actual	
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,077.08	\$ 8,708.00 *	\$ (369.08)

* Actual Income includes: \$3,600.00 ESTIMATED
INCOME from Shoo Fly Pie Sale

*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
\$ 26,164.54 Funds Received to offset expenses

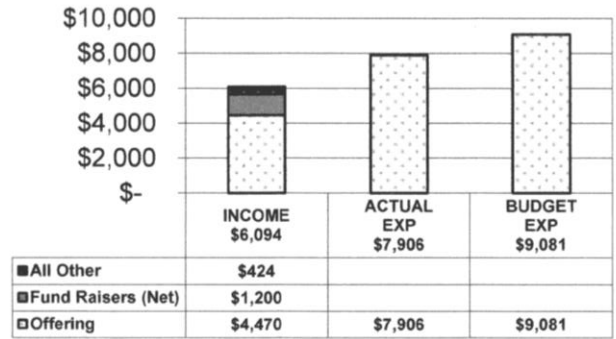
MEMORIAL DAY

We thank you, God, for loved ones dear
Who clung to faith beyond their fear,
Who served and paid the highest price
For freedom bought with sacrifice.
May they remind us of your Son
Whose death our final freedom won.

—Heidi L. Mann, 2012

– Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

MARCH 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE INCOME AND EXPENSE



MONTHLY AVERAGE

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

INCOME & EXPENSE ACTIVITY MARCH 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE

	Mar Y-T-D	Average Month
Income		
Offering	\$ 13,410	\$ 4,470
Fund Raisers	\$ 3,600	1,200
Other	\$ 1,271	424
Total Income	\$ 18,281	6,094
Actual Exp	\$ 23,719	7,906
Budget Exp	\$ 27,243	9,081
Shortage *	\$ (8,962)	(2,987)

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



“Mom — you deserve a
raise for raising me.”

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

STEWARDSHIP OF COMMUNITY

You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord. –Leviticus 19:18b

And who is my neighbor? –Luke 10:29b

Think of all the homes, apartments and condos within walking (or easy driving) distance of our congregation. Now ask, how do we interact with these neighbors? Does our congregation understand their issues, joys, opportunities and challenges? How can we love them as ourselves?

Though God has filled the world with neighbors for us to love, we have a special opportunity and responsibility with neighbors who are nearby us. They form our immediate community. Many congregations narrowly define “community” as people who are already part of church, but God calls us to broaden our vision.

Congregations across our denomination are finding renewed energy and purpose by connecting (or reconnecting) with their community neighbors. It takes work and a willingness to go outside our comfort zone, but worth the effort pays off for them and us.

“It’s within our power to become good neighbors, to care for the people around us and to be cared for by the people around us,” write Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon in *The Art of Neighboring* (2012, Baker Books, p. 22), a handy guide for a church to start a neighboring movement. “There really is a different way to live, and we are finding that it is actually the best way to live.”

Loving our neighbors we naturally gather together as community that is blessed by God. It holds true in our personal lives as well as our congregations. As spring and summer unfolds, let’s commit to finding ways to be better stewards of our community, engaging our neighbors, especially those who live closest to our congregation.

—Rob Blezard

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NEIGHBORLY LOVE

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, Lucas Beshore, Erma Guinther, Sharon Guinther, Virginia Guinther, Amanda Herman, 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: Adam Bell, Thelma Bright, Bill Collins, Mark Derr, Randy Dreibelbis, Jennifer Engle, Eric Fox, Becky Graeff, Mamie Guinther, Shirley Hahn, Corinne Hersh, David Jenkins, Sue Kerny, Angie Kistler, Richard Kurtz, Marie Leibensperger, Catherine Lenio, Ella Loose, Michael M., Michelle Meck, Phillip and Nancy Meck, Mary Merkel, Rodney Muthard, Nicolette Nolte, Family and friends of Kyle Olinger, Duane Petersheim, Jackson Radcliffe, Randy S., Family and friends of Linda Seaman, Leticia Weaver, Leah Wiest, and Pat.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: We pray for our nation, our president, congress and judicial system; an end to the fear that keeps us from getting to know our local and international neighbors; peace in the world and between citizens and those who serve them; our military personnel serving around the world; areas enduring disaster; and migrants and refugees.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Millie Berger, Sandy Burkart, Evelyn Collins Alice Epler, Barbara Feeman, Don Gajewski, Erma Gajewski, Lorelai Gold, Denise Haage, Steve Haage, Janis Kershner, Anh La., Tonya Petersheim, Arlene Reider, Leilani Rodriguez, Andrew S., Joshua S., Katie S., Rayjeana Schultz, Donna Schwoyer, Jack Stoudt, Jacqi Wagner, Rachel Woodhead, and Dennis Wright.

“To the world you are a mother, but to your family you are the world.”

—Adapted from Dr. Seuss

THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May

	5	10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Easter (W) – Holy Communion
◆	12	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Easter (W) ▪ Mother's Day Breakfast (before worship)
	19	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday of Easter (W) ▪ AED Dedication and Training ▪ Faith Formation Event after worship
*	26	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday of Easter (W)

June

	2	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday of Easter (W) – Holy Communion
	9	10:00 AM	Day of Pentecost (R) – Holy Communion
◆	16	10:00 AM	The Holy Trinity (W) – Holy Communion ▪ Father's Day Breakfast (before worship)
■	23	10:00 AM	Second Sunday after Pentecost (G) ▪ Joint Worship and Picnic in Bowers Park
	30	10:00 AM	Third Sunday after Pentecost (G)

July

	7	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
	14	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
	21	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
	28	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (G)

FELLOWSHIP DATES:

- (*) Fellowship after worship
- (◆) Breakfast before worship
- (■) Joint Worship and Picnic in Bowers Park

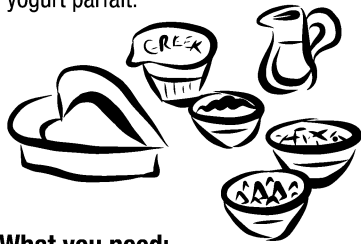




HEART-SHAPED breakfast



Treat Mom with this yummy, beautiful yogurt parfait.



What you need:

- Large heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Greek yogurt (any flavor)
- Toppings (mini chocolate chips, granola, shredded coconut, chia seeds, oats, slivered almonds, blueberries, sliced strawberries, raspberries, bananas)
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup

What you do:

1. Place cookie cutter on a plate. Spoon in yogurt, spreading it to the edges of the cookie cutter.
2. Add toppings, making a nice design. Remove cookie cutter.
3. Drizzle syrup around the edge of the plate.
4. Serve to your mom on Mother's Day!



A blessed woman

The last chapter of Proverbs describes a woman who loves God and strives to be a good wife and mother.

Directions: Use the picture clues to complete Proverbs 31:15, 28.

She gets _____ while it is still _____ ;



she provides _____ for her _____



Her _____ rise _____ and



_____ her blessed.



PROVERBS 31:15, 28 (NIV)

Answer: up, night, food, family, children, up, call

MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
5/5	TBA	Ken Keck	Dan and Joanne Pauley	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
5/12	Josh Keck	Ty Rissmiller	Sue Schlenker	Sue Schlenker
5/19	TBA	Sara Jane Beshore	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>
5/26	TBA	Gladys Kline	Ken Keck	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: Elaine Seip and Sherrie Carl

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: *(sponsor needed)*

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Jane Bennett

COMMUNION BREAD: 5/5 – Gladys Kline

COMMUNION SET-UP: 5/5 – *(volunteer needed)*

COUNCIL PERSON: Elaine Seip

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

MAY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		NOTE: Pastor Ruth on vacation until May 10	1	2 6:00pm-EBMD Spring Assembly, Henry Auditorium, Tipton Lutheran Home National Day of Prayer	3	4
5 Third Sunday of Easter ▪ Holy Communion	6 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	7 6:30pm-LAST Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-LAST Adult Choir Rehearsal	8 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	9	10 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	11 8:00am-12:00pm-Freebay, Fleetwood Bible Church 12:00-3:00pm-Celebrating a Mother's Love, Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers
12 Fourth Sunday of Easter ▪ Church Music Sunday 8:30-9:15am-Mother's Day Breakfast before worship Mother's Day	13 10:00am-Worship & Music Committee Mtg. 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm-Council Meeting	14 7:00pm-Theology with a Twist, Kutztown Tavern	15 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	16	17 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	18
19 Fifth Sunday of Easter ▪ Dedication and Training of AED ▪ Faith Formation Event after worship Newsletter Deadline	20 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	21 10:00am-Bereavement Support Forum, Lutheran Home at Tipton	22 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:05pm-Annual Faith Night at Coca-Cola Park, Allentown	23	24 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	25
26 Sixth Sunday of Easter ▪ Fellowship after Worship ▪ Geranium Orders Due	27 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Day	28	29 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	30 10:00am-Bible Study Ascension of Our Lord	31 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday, June 9, 2019

GERANIUM ORDER FORM

If you would like to purchase red geraniums for Pentecost, please fill out the information below. The price is \$3.00 for a 4-inch pot. Please return with payment to the church office or place in offering plate by Sunday, May 26th.

Thank you!

PRINT NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ ENV NO. _____

DEDICATION: _____

<u>Qty.</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
_____	X	\$3.00	\$ _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

_____ I will pick up my flower(s) after the Pentecost service.

_____ Please donate my flower(s) to a homebound member.

_____ Please plant my flower(s) at church.

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



Synod Assembly 2019 Saturday, June 1st 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites, Hazleton

Even if you are not a delegate, plan to join us in celebrating our past and looking to our future, as we strive to make this day and each day a new opportunity to give thanks, to worship, to pray, to dialogue, and to seek the good of our neighbors - all by the power of the Holy Spirit and the unconditional love of our great God, all because of what Christ has done for us.

For more information, visit the synod website at godslove.org.

Ministry Fair

Saturday, May 4
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
The Lutheran Center

Learn about ministries of the Northeastern PA Synod, share resources offered by synod teams, and attend mini-sessions (like Learning Ministries Day).

For more information and to register, visit the synod website at godslove.org.

No More Sunday School?



At Holy Trinity Memorial in Catasauqua, the Christian Education Team decided to try something new. This decision was reached because the church noticed a declining trend in Sunday School attendance. With this trend, the question was asked, "What's more important: Worship or Education?" The team decided that worship is more important and that education can happen inside of a worship service if time is allowed.

If the congregation were going to worship with a group of young people, then it needed talk about what might attract them. The team made sure that parents, educators, theologians, and lay people were present in these talks. In the end, they determined that they would begin a family service during the normal Sunday School times. September would kick off this new worship format.

To be completely honest, the leaders of this new worship service were ready to revert to the traditional Sunday School programming within three months. They just did not see this service taking hold in the community. Wrong these leaders were.

Since the start, the service has grown in attendance, averaging thirty people each week. While the service is not perfect, it is filled with joy by a loving and accepting multi-generational group of people.

This was one church's answer to this question. It's not a solution for everyone. It was a discovery process. The team strongly suggests that all groups talk. Don't try just anything, which may turn out to nothing more than a gimmick. Try to discover a new way of being.

Changes in Synod Staff

Pr. Mary Gade and Pr. Carl Shankweiler Retire

Pr. Kathleen Ash-Flashner and Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller Join the Staff



Pr. Mary Gade

Pastor Mary Gade, Associate of the Bishop since 2009, has been responsible for the Rostered Ministers and Congregations of the East Berks Mission District, Candidacy, Boundary/Misconduct matters, and other duties.

Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller joins the staff as Associate of the Bishop for the East Berks Mission District (part time). She will relinquish her seat on Synod Council.

Associate of the Bishop Pastor Peggy Wuertele will add Candidacy to her current staff role, and Associate of the Bishop Pastor Jean Huber will add Boundary/Misconduct matters to hers.



Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller



Pr. Carl Shankweiler

Pastor Carl Shankweiler, Associate of the Bishop since 2009, has been responsible for Rostered Ministers and Congregations of the Schuylkill Mission District, and he has assisted congregations preparing for closure and the sale of a building.

Pastor Kathleen Ash-Flashner (St. Paul, Summer Hill) will become Associate of the Bishop for the Schuylkill Mission District (part time). She will step down as dean.



Pr. Kathleen Ash-Flashner

The departure of Mary and Carl from the staff will bring a significant change to the life of this synod. They are cherished, respected, and trusted colleagues who have contributed significantly to the work we do together. We are indebted to them for the faith, insight, discipline, and much-needed wit they brought to their ministry with us.

Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA



Since the launch of the campaign, ELCA members, including those in our Northeastern PA Synod, have contributed \$181 million in current gifts, as well as an additional \$45 million in planned gifts, to support campaign ministries. You are making a difference in this church and around the world – thank you! With just three months to go, please prayerfully discern whether you can make another “first fruits” gift to the campaign.

Give now by visiting elca.org and clicking on the “Campaign for the ELCA” button.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com.

View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.