

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

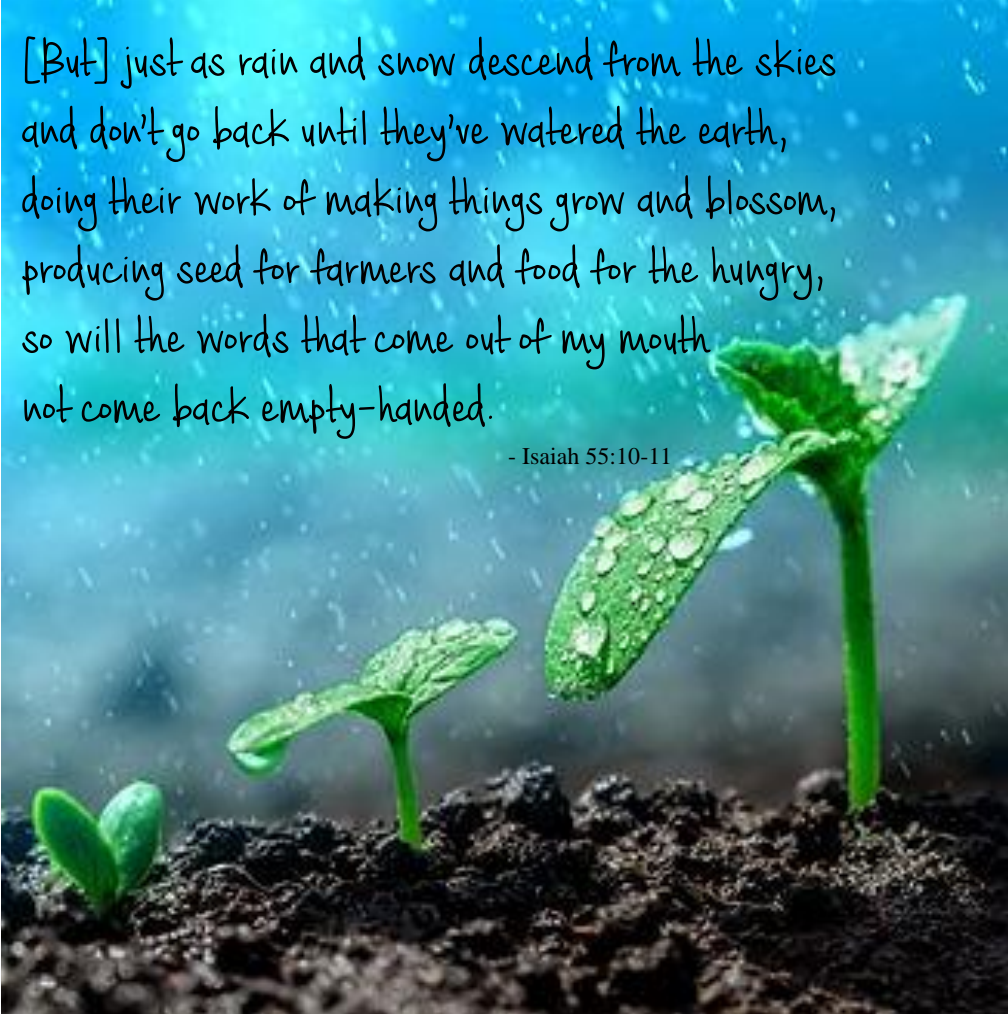
E-MAIL: njelchurch@windstream.net

WEBSITE: <https://NewJerusalemLutheran.weebly.com>

OFFICE PHONE: 610.682.6064

SECRETARY HOURS:

Monday 7:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., Wednesday 7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (in-office hours from 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.), Thursday 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.



[But] just as rain and snow descend from the skies and don't go back until they've watered the earth, doing their work of making things grow and blossom, producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry, so will the words that come out of my mouth not come back empty-handed.

- Isaiah 55:10-11

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.



April showers bring May Flowers

Dear Friends,

It's Earth Day, April 21, as I am starting to write this, but already the daffodils, forsythia, hyacinth and even my crabapple have been in bloom. What a gorgeous start of spring we have had! Still, according to what has been usual here, it's been early for all of these to have bloomed. Even the lilacs, which usually don't come out until Mother's Day, are blooming. It's been beautiful, but if we have all this beauty this early, what is to come?

April is supposed to be a rainy month, but we haven't seen much yet and the garden is actually getting a little dry. I'm starting to think about what seeds and plants to buy for my flowerpots. What will be likely to survive and even thrive this year? And then there are those seeds we've received in the mail. I probably still have some that should have been planted in previous years. Sometimes I just throw them in one certain area I have and wait to see whether they come up. I'm often surprised.

During April the stories of God's steadfast love, stories of love that is willing to stare evil and even death in the face, stories of love that is even stronger than evil and death, *these* are the stories which have been raining down on us: We walked with Jesus through misunderstandings, rejection, betrayal, and crucifixion. We came with the women to the tomb, heard the angels' unexpected and unbelievable announcement, walked with two on the Road to Emmaus, and have experienced Jesus entering the locked doors of our hearts as he did the Upper Room where the disciples hid out. Jesus appeared again and again, watering the seeds of faith in the disciples and these stories have watered our faith as well.

And now, in May, we hear him say, "You. You. Yes, *you!* Go and bloom. Let the joy of my love show in your lives! And go! Go and sow the seeds of faith and nurture the sprouts that appear. It's up to you, now. Well, yes, it *is* up to you, but not *all* up to you. Don't feel overwhelmed. The Spirit *will* give you what you need and I've given you one another to help with the responsibilities. Don't be afraid to plant seeds that seem unlikely to sprout or in places you don't think are particularly fertile. Take a chance. Then, be patient and see what happens. Not every seed will sprout. Some may also take longer to emerge than others. Just don't give up!"

During this season after Easter our readings from the epistles, the letters to the churches, will help us understand how to spread and nurture the seeds of faith through the ways we live our lives, not just through words. In particular the readings from First and Second Peter will also encourage us for those times when nothing seems to be sprouting and when our own spirits are longing for water. Just as the early believers, we need that kind of assurance.

When Jesus entered that Upper Room where the disciples hid in fear, his first words were "Peace be with you." And so also, my prayer for you this month is "Peace." After his first greeting Jesus repeated, "Peace be with you" and then said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit." And so I, too, repeat, "Peace be with you. And may it be the kind that not only assures and grounds you, but also releases you to go in peace and serve the Lord."

Pastor Ruth



NEWS & EVENTS

at New Jerusalem and in the community

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were covered at our Council Meeting on Monday, April 10:

- Denny Beshore, Finance Committee Chairperson, went over the 2022 Audit and gave an update on the finances of the church.
- Sherrie Carl and Carole Herbert have volunteered to represent New Jerusalem at the East Berks Mission District (EBMD) Meeting and the Synod Assembly.
- Diane Keller resigned from council. We thank her for her many years of dedicated service and wish her the best.
- Council members met with the council of St. Paul's, Mertztown. They are planning another meeting with the council members of Trinity, Topton.
- The new filters for the water system were installed. Hopefully there will be no more issues.
- An estimate was received from Harold Guinther for painting the three windows on the new addition of the church.

On April 23 a special meeting of council members and the cemetery board was held to discuss a proposal for surveying the property. Council authorized the survey for the church property. As soon as they have the price, the cemetery board will decide whether to authorize the survey of that property.

Our next council meeting will be held on **Monday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m.**

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be held on **Mondays, May 1, 15, and 22 at 11:00 a.m.** We will continue our study of 2nd Peter. New members are welcome.

EAST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT (EBMD) AND SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES

Thank you to Sherrie Carl and Carole Herbert who will be representing New Jerusalem at the EBMD meeting on Thursday, May 4 and the Synod Assembly Thursday-Saturday, June 1-3.

COLORING GROUP

PLEASE NOTE: No Coloring Group this month.

BINGO WITH THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOPTON LUTHERAN HOME

Come play Bingo with our neighbors on the hill on **Saturday, May 6**. Help is needed to transport residents to and from their rooms, assist them with playing, distribute prizes, and just help them have a great time. Meet at the main entrance to Deibert Hall at 1:00 p.m. for check-in and instructions. Bingo will start around 2:00 p.m. and should be finished around 4:00 p.m. Members are asked to collect prizes such as: tissue boxes, stamps, greeting cards, snacks, lotions, aftershave, candy, etc. These can be brought to our fellowship area.

OLD-FASHIONED SPRING FESTIVAL

On **Sunday, May 7**, Longswamp UCC, Mertztown, will be kicking off their 275th Anniversary Celebration with an Old-Fashioned Spring Festival **from Noon to 3:00 p.m.** There will be live music (including the Brandywine High School Jazz Band & 70 Something), food and treats (including homemade ice cream and lemonade), buggy rides, craft stations for all ages (including flower crowns and corn husk dolls), historical entertainment (including a May Pole dance), and SO MUCH MORE!

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

We hope you will be able to join us to treat mom or the special women in your life to a delicious breakfast on **Sunday, May 14, from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.** There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex if you are able to help with providing any food for the breakfast.

JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the March newsletter is **Sunday, May 15**.

HELPING HARVEST/TOPTON MOBILE MARKET

The Helping Harvest food distribution will take place on **Tuesday, May 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the Brandywine Heights MS/IS.

JAMES MEN'S MINISTRY (JMM)

Breakfast gatherings start at 8:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month. Their next meeting will be held **Saturday, May 20**, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tipton.

COMMUNION ON THE PARKING LOT will be held on Saturday, May 13, at 5:00 p.m. Spread the word. Other dates have been scheduled for June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, and October 14.

THE COMPASSIONATE CRAFTERS

We are at it again! The Compassionate Crafters are adding a new project! In addition to the crocheted and knitted Prayer Shawls, Prayer Lap Blankets and Crafters Critters, we will be making Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts! These quilts represent a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need and can be used as warm bedding, simple tents, or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering. To help us get started, we are requesting donations of well washed material for quilt backs and fillers, such as sheets, light blankets, bedspreads, drapes, or 60" wide quilt batting. If you are able to participate in the quilt assembly, you may do so at home at your convenience or at group meetings which are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We meet in the lower-level Sunday School room at Trinity Lutheran Church, 121 South Home Avenue, Tipton.

Hope to see you there! For more information, call or text Ellen at 484-226-6231.

SEAFOOD SALE

Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, Dryville, is holding a seafood sale to benefit the Linda Potteiger and Marjorie Bailey scholarship funds. These funds help to support individuals of Christ Mertz's congregation to further and continue their education. There will be everything from frozen seafood to homemade crab cakes...and the crab cakes are killer with little filler!

Simply click on the link below, fill out your order, and come and get your orders.

<https://www.christmertz.org/scholarship-seafood-sale-fundraiser/>

Orders are due May 14th to Christ Mertz's church office or call Amanda/Andrew Potteiger at 610.641.0128. **Pick up is Saturday, May 20th from 8:30-10:00 a.m.** Money is collected at pick up. Please make checks payable to Christ Mertz Lutheran Church. Thank you for your support!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP IN BOWERS PARK

Join with our brothers and sisters in Christ on **Sunday, May 21, at 10:30 a.m.** for an Outdoor Worship and Fellowship Picnic.

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, MAY 28th

Please note: On Sunday, May 28, we will meet outside facing the cemetery at 10:00 a.m. At that time the Tipton Honor Guard will fire a salute and play taps. We will then proceed into the sanctuary for worship. Please be sure to come in plenty of time to join in thanking God for our nation.

DAY OF PENTECOST – May 28th

We will be beautifying our sanctuary with red geraniums for Pentecost Sunday on May 28. The price is \$3.00 for a 4" pot. Orders are due by Sunday, May 7. You can contact the church office at 610.682.6064 to place your order.

MUSIC FESTIVAL WITH THE MAJESTICS

Mark **Saturday, July 29, at 6:00 p.m.** on your calendar for an evening of fun and toe tapping, hand clapping music with "The Majestics Band." Other congregations will be assisting us with setup and food. More details to come at a later date.

Upcoming Events

- **Youth Bingo**, Lutheran Home, Diebert Hall, Saturday, May 6, 1:00-3:30 p.m.
- **Old-Fashioned Spring Festival**, Sunday, May 7, 12:00-3:00 p.m., Longswamp UCC, Mertztown
- **Community Outdoor Worship in Bowers Park**, Sunday, May 21, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
- **Seafood Sale**, Saturday, May 20, 2023. Pick up from 8:30-10:00 a.m.
- **Music Festival featuring The Majestics Band**, Saturday, July 29, 6:00 p.m., Bowers Park
- **Community Outdoor Worship in Bowers Park**, Sunday, August 6, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
- **Youth Volleyball Tournament**, Longswamp Township Park, Saturday, August 12, 1:00 p.m.

Busy is just another euphemism for being so focused on what you don't have, that you never notice what you do have.

-Jodi Picolt, Wish You Were Here

NOW HERE'S GOOD NEWS

“We can choose to alleviate suffering. We can choose to work together for peace. We can make these changes—and we must.”

-Jimmy Carter, Nobel Lecture

Too often the “news” only focuses on problems. Here’s news from The Carter Center about a problem you may never have heard about, but is on track to be eliminated very soon.

The Carter Center was founded by people of faith, President and Rosalyn Carter. Since 1986, the center has led the international campaign to eradicate Guinea worm disease. At that time the disease affected 3.5 million people a year in 21 countries in Africa and Asia. In 2022 only 13 human cases were reported, a reduction of 99.99%. This means Guinea worm disease could become the second human disease in history, after smallpox, to be eradicated. It would be the first parasitic disease to be eradicated and the first disease to be eradicated without the use of a vaccine or medicine. Reported animal infections also continue to decline.

What is Guinea worm disease? It is a parasitic infection caused by a roundworm. People get it when they consume contaminated water. Inside the body the worms grow to about a meter in length. After a year they start to slowly emerge through a lesion in the skin. The very painful process can take weeks, causing people to be unable to care for themselves, work, grow food, or attend school. In addition, the lesions are prone to infection.

There is no known curative medicine or vaccine to prevent Guinea worm disease. Sufferers may try to gain relief by immersing their limbs in water sources, but that only spreads the disease.

The Guinea Worm Eradication Program is wiping out this ancient disease mainly through community-based interventions to educate and change behavior, such as teaching people to filter all drinking water and preventing transmission by keeping anyone with an emerging worm from entering water sources.

The Carter Center spearheads the International Guinea Worm Eradication Campaign and works in close partnership with national programs, the World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and many other partners. National Ministries of Health oversee the elimination programs in their own countries. The

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides technical assistance. UNICEF mainly assists countries by helping to provide safe sources of drinking water to priority areas.

Sometimes we cannot imagine a world free from disease. Let us give thanks for those who dare to envision a world free from disease, find partners who share that vision, and work together to pursue the life God intended for all God’s creatures.

For more information on how the Carter Center works to wage peace, fight disease and build hope throughout the world, visit www.Cartercenter.org.



VBS at Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, Dryville

July 17 through July 21 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

The theme will be “Stellar – Shine Jesus’ Light.”

Help is needed to guide center work (arts and crafts, music, storytelling, snack pre, attendance, supplies, etc.) Below is a link to a preview video.

<https://player.vimeo.com/video/718884634?h=9b29dd896e&byline=false&portrait=false&&title=false>

If you would like to assist in any area, please contact Carla Flemming at carla.flemming64@gmail.com.

VBS at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Mertztown

July 24 through July 28 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The theme is “God’s Living Water.” A planning meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7, at 12:00 p.m. in St. Paul’s Center for volunteers. If you are able to help out with VBS, please let Pastor Jeremiah Sassaman or Kimberly Meitzler know at 610.682.6229.

VBS for the Topton Community

June 18 through June 22 from 6:00-8:15 p.m. at the Topton Borough Park. The theme is “Mystery Island.” An organization meeting for volunteers is planned for Sunday, April 30, at 12:00 p.m. at the Topton Grange Hall. To register for VBS, go to www.redeemertopton.org beginning May 1st. For more information, contact Redeemer Bible Fellowship Church at 610.641.1090.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

March 31, 2023

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 18,533.89
Thrivent	10,354.10
Checking	5,136.08
Youth	412.71
Fidelity	52,911.74
Cash Reserve	14,423.77
Mission Investment Fund	11,678.29
Local Care	<u>2,395.31</u>
Total:	<u>\$ 115,845.89</u>

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **March 31, 2022** \$ 143,034.64

March 2023 – ‘Actual’ vs. ‘Required’ Income

	Income Required	Actual	
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,860.00	\$ 8,696.01	\$ (1,163.99)

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2023
Budget Passed by Congregation
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution*

A MOTHER’S DAY HYMN

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God “mothers” each new child into
This world day after day.

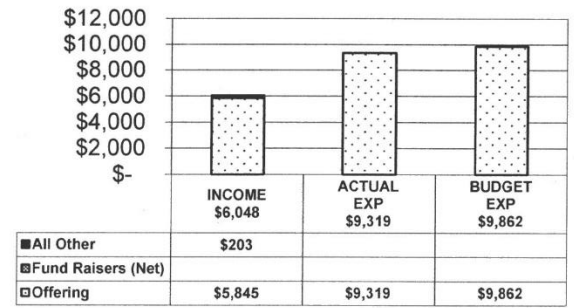
God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God’s Comfort, Grace and Love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who “mothers” us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

—Peggy Ferrell



MARCH 2023 YEAR-TO-DATE INCOME AND EXPENSE



MONTHLY AVERAGE

CALENDAR YEAR 2023 INFORMATION NORMAL OPERATIONS (DOES NOT INCLUDE MAJOR REPAIRS/PURCHASES)

INCOME & EXPENSE ACTIVITY MARCH 2023 YEAR-TO-DATE		
	Mar Y-T-D	Average Month
Income		
Offering	\$ 17,535	\$ 5,845
Fund Raisers	\$ -	-
Other	\$ 610	203
Total Income	<u>\$ 18,145</u>	<u>6,048</u>
Actual Exp	\$ 27,957	9,319
Budget Exp	\$ 29,587	9,862
Shortage *	\$ (11,442)	(3,814)

*NOTE: Shortage - Total Income to 2023 BUDGET Expense
Less Benevolence

Bible Quiz

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



Answer: A (See Acts 2:15.)



WORSHIP SPONSORS & ASSISTANTS

Altar Flower Sponsors:

- May 7 – Rodney and Diane Keller
- May 14 – *sponsor needed*
- May 21 – *sponsor needed*
- May 28 – Gladys Kline

Bulletin Sponsors:

- May 7 – Rodney and Diane Keller
- May 14 – Virginia Guinther
- May 21 – *sponsor needed*
- May 28 – *sponsor needed*

Sanctuary Candle Sponsor:

Dale Schwoyer

Altar Guild Volunteer(s):

volunteer needed

Communion Bread Sponsor:

- May 7 – Vikie Seyfert
- May 28 – Vikie Seyfert

Communion Set-up Volunteer:

- May 7 – Gladys Kline
- May 28 – *volunteer needed*

Readers:

- May 7 – Ty Rissmiller
- May 14 – Cindy Rissmiller
- May 21 – Kenneth Keck
- May 28 – Gladys Kline

Councilperson(s) for the Month:

Joshua Keck



**MEMORIAL DAY
May 29, 2023**

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE for Those with Limited Mobility or in Care Facilities: Anna Angstadt, Myles Angstadt, Erma Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, Irene Noll, and Gabriele Sanders.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND SUPPORT Members: Holly Allen, Virginia Guinther, Lucille Jones, Brian Keller, Diane Keller, Forrest Merkel, Grace Miller, Linda Moyer, Lloyd Moyer, and Horace Rothermel.

Friends of the congregation: Charlie Ackerman, John Arndt, Steve Beck, Jason Beshore, Darlene Bogert, Bishop Christopher deForest, Earl Derr, John Drumheller, Jennifer Engle, Alice Epler, Olivia Fenstermacher, Karen Gossert, Shirley Hahn, Nancy Harnish, Katelyn Hotzman, Debra Kenny, Kelly Kline, The Koontz Family, Cayden Kresge, Catherine Lenio, Julia Lombardo, Joe M., Vivian Reist, Arlan Schwoyer, Patricia Sigfried, Cleon and Jean Smith, Shawn Spatz, Robert Taylor, Leon Wagner, Tim Walck, Leticia Weaver, Richard Weller, Althea Young, Becky, Dawn, Jason, Lynn, Pat, Sam, and Tim.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: We pray for: peace in the world, and particularly in the Ukraine and eastern Europe; all seeking to respond responsibly to COVID-19, especially healthcare workers; those recovering from and responding to disasters, especially those in Puerto Rico; migrants and refugees; for our nation, including our president, congress, judicial system, and leaders of our communities; an end to the many ways prejudice and racism maintain inequality between people and injustice; an end to threats between nations; peace in the world; our military personnel serving around the world.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Carrie Bausch, Nancy Bennecoff, Gary DeWees, Katie Didyoung, Don Gajewski, Erma Gajewski, Lorelai Gold, Amanda Herman, Johnson-Agiri Family, Mary Kring, Leilani Rodriquez, Andrew S., Tierney Schmeer, Donna Schwoyer, Lesley Wegman, and Linda Wegman.



THE POTATO PROJECT
15 Years of Sharing the Feast
-by Deacon Linda Zawaski

Some History

We started in our back yard 15 years ago planting our seed potato cuttings on foot and by hand as I followed Walt on “Froggy” our old International Harvester Farmall Cub tractor plowing open the rows ahead of me. Autumn harvest began with the help of an adapted 3-point potato plow linked to the back of the Farmall cub. With weekend volunteers working from September through to November, the potatoes were picked up, washed and bagged, whereupon the potatoes were delivered to various local pantries and soup kitchens by the same volunteers.

Since then we have expanded via donated acreage and funds to purchase additional needed equipment. That made it possible to increase product variety and amounts while also aiming to spread out available product across the growing seasons to better match food bank and pantry management needs.

Because of the donation responses of congregations, folks, businesses, and organizations over these past years, growth has continued! We now have a string bean harvester that allows us to harvest the summer crops of a variety of beans and peas and not just the fall crop of potatoes.

Our Need

Our vision is to continue working with Helping Harvest Food Bank of Berks County who has been our main distributor for 14 years now. As part of that vision there is the opportunity of IHartHarvest Inc. to add sweet corn to our fresh produce donations and the need for equipment to harvest the same. To move forward with this vision to aid the increasing number of our neighbors in need, more than ever we are also in need of an increase in support financially.

Our budget for the 2023 year is \$42,700. Prices for fuel and grower supplies had all increased greatly already. The budget amount will cover both of those areas and the equipment maintenance needs and meet the autumn harvest session hospitality needs and daily operation’s needs. Additional equipment possibilities to expand with a sweet corn project will need more.

Give thanks with us to the Holy Spirit for the blessings of folks and donations that have made this project a blessing to over a million recipients. Please consider giving this year if you haven’t in the past. Please consider increasing what donations you can as you continue your support of this community ministry. Please check out these online resources for more detailed information on IHartHarvest Inc., our vision and our needs.

[IHartHarvest, Inc. www.ihartharvest.org](http://www.ihartharvest.org)

www.facebook.com/PotatoProject/

In Christ’s Peace with Thanks,

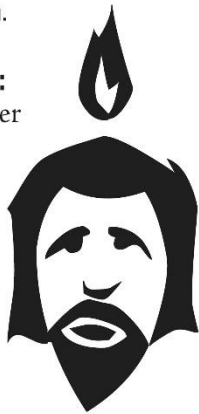
Deacon Linda Zawaski and Walt Zawaski

Spirit SPINNER

For Pentecost, make a thaumatrope, a spinning toy that creates an optical illusion of motion.

What you need:

- White paper
- Cup
- Scissors
- Pencil and markers
- Plastic drinking straw
- Glue



What you do:

1. Using the cup's circular shape, trace two identical circles on the paper. Carefully cut them out.
2. In pencil, draw a person's head on one circle. Then place the blank circle on top and use the image beneath to guide you in drawing a flame above the head.
3. Color the two images with markers.
4. Apply glue to the backs of the circles and sandwich the top of the straw between them so it looks like a lollipop. Let dry.
5. Roll the straw quickly between your hands to view a mini motion picture.



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

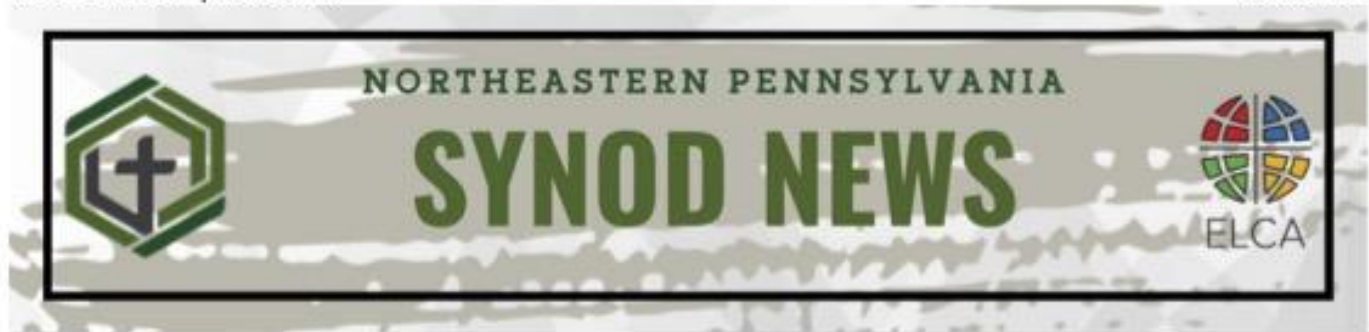
1. HEAV [] []
2. [] ABLE []
3. [] AY OF PENTECOS []
4. [] ONGUE []
5. [] PIRI []
6. [] OGETHE []
7. [] ES []
8. [] ONGUE []
9. [] A []
10. [] IND []



“When the _____³ came, they were all _____⁶ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____¹⁰ came from _____¹ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____⁹ what seemed to be _____⁴ of fire that separated and came to _____⁷ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____⁵ and began to speak in other _____⁸ as the Spirit _____² them.”

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind



Wednesday may be a slump day for some, but at the La Crosse LuMin Lutheran Campus it's all about grace through free cookie Wednesday. Want a cookie? Take a cookie! They just give out cookies to make folks' day better – no strings attached. As he's giving out the cookies, it's not unusual for Pastor Ben Morris to be asked, "Where do the cookies come from?" The answer is Lutheran grandmas up in the bluffs and hills made them with real butter and real love. Each week congregations throughout the La Crosse Area Synod drop off 500 cookies to be given away. Pastor Ben says, "It's like manna in the wilderness; there always seems to be enough," and these cookies taste better.

LuMin La Crosse is a place to gather in worship, connect to study, grab a cup of coffee, share a family-style meal, sit in prayer, make bread for the women's shelter, take walks together, and explore places afar in service to others. They advocate for others, share space with multicultural student groups, proudly display the pride flag, and mostly reconnect with humanity and each other. Oh, and give out cookies! Like all ELCA LuMin campus ministry sites across our synods, this ministry happens because congregations share food – yes, cookies – and also through Mission Support that is shared with our synods and churchwide organization to support these vital, transformative, grace-filled ministries with students. Mission Support is just one way campus ministry is funded, so learn more, and pray for local campus ministry by checking out luminelca.org/.

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?



JUNE 1-3 2023 AT
KALAHARI RESORT

www.godslove.org. We have also set aside more than 90 minutes in the agenda to address resolutions and motions at this meeting – more than any meeting before – with additional time we can make available as needed. **Come as Voting Member from your congregation and make your voice heard.**

The Inspiring Worship and Music. Our talented worship team has been 6 months in the planning for all elements of worship and music at this event – with more in store for this Assembly than ever. Music will be led by the celebrated group “Chasing Daylight,” with added highlights from David Scherer (known nationally as “AGAPE”). Also featured will be works of art, dance, poetry, lights and colors, and sights, and sounds to move and uplift from floor to ceiling!

The Speakers, Preachers & Presenters. **Never before have we been able to offer such an impressive line-up** for learning and bringing back ideas and inspirations for you and your congregations: A wide range of hands-on workshops led by local and churchwide experts.

- Joe Davis and David Scherer – nationally acclaimed speakers, recording artists and educators; and featured performers at ELCA Youth Gatherings. They plan to power up our workshops AND main sessions (AKA plenaries) – getting us on our feet, interacting, and understanding better some of the biggest challenges we face today: including engaging with young people; finding new energy in worship and ministry; and having conversations around tough topics, especially racism. T
- Bishop Michael Girlinghouse – author of the new book: *Embracing God’s Future without Forgetting the Past*. Drawing on more than 30 years of research and experience – Bishop Girlinghouse will show us how we and our congregations can work through our collective grief without forgetting or devaluing our past. He will offer a practical, step-by-step process for engaging and embracing God’s future for each congregation.
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30am-Worship & Music Committee Meeting 11:00am-Bible Study 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Jeff and Dawn Wengert & family	2 5:30pm-Choir Rehearsal Kenneth and Cheryl Wiltout	3 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Carole Herbert and Mark Zeleznick	4 6:00pm-East Berks Mission District Meeting, Topton Lutheran Home, Henry Auditorium Clinton Allen NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	5 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Celebrate Recovery, Redeemer BFC, Topton Glenn and Holly Allen	6 1:00pm-Bingo with the Residents of the Lutheran Home Jonathan Allen
7 <u>Fifth Sunday of Easter</u> 10:00am-Worship with Holy Communion 12:00-3:00pm-Old-Fashioned Spring Festival, Longswamp UCC, Mertztown	8 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Anna Angstadt	9 5:30pm-Choir Rehearsal Myles Angstadt	10 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Daniel and Kathy Bailey	11 9:30-11:00am-Compassionate Crafters, Trinity Lutheran, Topton Sarah Bailey	12 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Celebrate Recovery, Redeemer BFC, Topton Michael Barlet	13
14 <u>Sixth Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30am-Mother's Day Breakfast 10:00am-Worship Christ Mertz Seafood Sale Order Deadline	15 11:00am-Bible Study 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Council Mtg. Tara Basta	16 11:00am-1:00pm-Helping Harvest Food Distribution at Brandywine Heights IS/MS 5:30pm-Choir Rehearsal Richard Bausher	17 12:00pm-Fellowship Luncheon (location TBD) 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Randy and Luann Bennecoff	18 Denny and Sara Jane Beshore ASCENSION DAY	19 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Celebrate Recovery, Redeemer BFC, Topton Keith Boyer	20 8:00am-James Men's Ministry Breakfast, Trinity Lutheran, Topton 8:30-10:00am-Seafood Sale Pickup, Christ Mertz
21 <u>Seventh Sunday of Easter</u> 10:30am-Outdoor Worship & Fellowship Picnic in Bowers Park NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22 11:00am-Bible Study 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Richard Boyer	23 5:30pm-Choir Rehearsal Alan and Sherrie Carl	24 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Richard Carl	25 9:30-11:00am-Compassionate Crafters, Trinity Lutheran, Topton Elwood and Katie Ellen Cleaver	26 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Celebrate Recovery, Redeemer BFC, Topton Madison Cleaver	27
28 <u>Day of Pentecost</u> 10:00am-Worship with Holy Communion -Topton Honor Guard -Fellowship after worship	29 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Randy Cleaver and family MEMORIAL DAY	30 5:30pm-Choir Rehearsal Taylor Cleaver	31 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Norma Conrad			