

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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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 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.*



The times, they are a changin'!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Yes, the times, they are a changin'. Mums and asters are blooming. We have yet to see whether the leaves will have much color, but they have started to fall. The temperatures are fluctuating, giving us cool nights and sometimes we even need a sweater in the morning. Soon I will have to put away my sandals. All of this is discouraging for those who love summer, but exciting for those who love fall and winter.

The times they are also "a changin'" for our congregation and the whole Christian church. Many churches and denominations in North America see fewer and fewer people at worship. Those who do attend tend to be older and less able to volunteer for long cherished activities. We are prone to bemoan this and speculate that people no longer care about God. However, local and global studies show quite the opposite. *The Invitational Christian* and *Future Faith* point out that people are still searching for God. According to author Dave Daubert:

Studies show that people in general and younger adults in particular are looking for warmth, family, a place to unplug from technology, and a place where they can find answers to relevant questions in their lives. Those studies show that Millennials are not overly interested in church life, but are often interested in finding out about Jesus. Many are curious about God and finding purpose and meaning in their lives. – *The Invitational Christian*, pp. 4-5

Wesley Granberg-Michaelson writes:

In most parts of the world, Christian faith is thriving, with new and vibrant expressions marked by surprising and unanticipated developments. . . [T]he global narrative tells of a world becoming more religious, with Christianity experiencing dynamic growth and change that is bringing fresh spiritual vitality and relevant social impact. The question is whether US churches will be locked into a parochial story of their gradual demise or liberated by a global story that is bringing new life into its midst. – *Future Faith*, pp. 5, 20.

We are a resurrection people. The being of the Christ who emerged from the tomb was transformed. It was similar enough to the One who had been crucified, that his disciples recognized him, but something about his being was also different. We are a resurrection people and must recognize that the church as we know it is being re-formed. The question is, will we look for the signs that this is happening and ask for God's help to be a part of the transformed Body of Christ, or will we continue to tell ourselves discouraging stories?

It is hard to face change. We mourn the loss of warm weather when we can wear shorts and comfortably sit outside. But even as we rake up wilted plants, we plan next year's garden, plant bulbs, and look for signs that the trees will bud again. In the same way we resurrection people need to look for signs that new life is already emerging in the church and learn how we can meet and connect with those who are "interested in finding out about Jesus," who are "curious about God and finding purpose and meaning in their lives," and those who are already "on fire" with God's love. This is why our members are engaged in conversations with other congregations and are learning how to be "invitational Christians."

The stories we tell ourselves about ourselves and our world matter. They not only reflect how we see our lives, but they also shape our lives. There is much that we see and experience that is disheartening, that we need to expose and protest. But God promises that God can and will work good in whatever happens. Look for those signs. Tell and celebrate those stories. Let us live as resurrection peoples even as "the times, they are a changin'."

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 September 9:

- The Introduction and first chapter of *The Invitational Christian*, by Dave Daubert, was read and discussed by council.
- A transfer of \$5,000 was made from the Fidelity account to the Checking account.
- Allen Turner should be installing the handrails to the altar sometime in October.
- Guidelines for a “Gifts Policy and the Gifts Team” were accepted and approved.

OCTOBER SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Bulletin sponsor for October 27, a Communion Set-up volunteer for October 27, and an Altar Guild volunteer. Please sign up on the sheets in the narthex if you are able to help.

PASTOR RUTH will be out of town on September 29, on vacation until Sunday, October 6, and out of the office October 7-9. If you would need pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Jeremiah Sassaman at 610.657.0269.

NORTHEASTERN PA SYNOD ICE CREAM TOUR

In preparation for next June’s election of a new bishop and important decisions about the mission and future directions of our synod, Bishop Zeiser and Synod Vice President Kristen Weiner are hosting an ice cream tour around the synod so that members of our congregations can learn about the process and share concerns. An opportunity for fun, fellowship and conversation closest to us is **Sunday, October 6, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** at The Nesting Box Market and Creamery, 230 Snyder Road, Kempton, and **7:00-9:00 p.m.** at Way-Har Farms, 7701 Bernville Road, Bernville.

BREAKFAST WITH OUR FIREFIGHTERS

Saturday morning, **October 12, 8:30-10:30 a.m.**, firefighters and their families from the Lyons Fire Company will join members of the congregation for breakfast. This is a chance for us to get to know,

thank, and encourage these vital members of our community. Plan now to attend. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex or call the church office to let us know you are coming. There is also a sign-up sheet for donations and volunteer help for the meal.



HEALING SERVICE – October 13th

A time for healing will take place as part of our regular worship service.

BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Bible Study on **Thursday, October 17, at 10:00 a.m.**

VOCATION SUNDAY – October 20th

We will be celebrating Vocation Sunday on October 20th. Members are asked to bring a symbol of their vocation to be placed on and around the altar. Read more about Vocation Sunday in the article on Page 4.

FAITH FORMATION EVENT – October 20th

Bring a lunch to enjoy after worship along with a Bible story. Mark your calendar for these future Faith Formation events: November 17th and December 8th, starting at noon.

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November 2019 newsletter is **Sunday, October 20th**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS

Representatives of area churches continue work on ways we can cooperate in mission. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 21, at 5:00 p.m.** at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Mertztown. Let Pastor Ruth know if you are interested in being part of these exciting discussions.

2019 SCOUTING FOR FOOD – The Boy Scouts from Troop 585 will be handing out Scouting for Food collection cards after worship on **Sunday, October 27** and collecting the food the following **Sunday, November 3**. All food collected will be donated to the Brandywine Food Pantry.

OCTOBER 27 – BRING YOUR BIBLE TO CHURCH FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY

ADULT FORUM – October 27

Attorney Keller Kline will lead us in discussion regarding essential legal documents and arrangements. Refreshments will be available. Join us after our worship service for the first session in a series of forums about important issues for adults to consider that is being planned by our Faith Formation Committee.

Future topics will include:

1. Essential Financial Planning
2. Health and Medical Planning – health directives, advanced directives, etc.
3. Housing options as life changes
4. Coping and assisting with varieties of grief
5. End of life as we know it celebrations: funerals, memorials, and more

Friends are welcome.

INTERESTED IN VISITING A SYNAGOGUE FOR A WORSHIP SERVICE, please contact Pastor Ruth.

2nd ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL WRAP-UP

Thank you to everyone that helped make our Fall Festival a success. There were over 150 people in attendance. Net income from donations, estimated at \$1100, will be split between the WHY Club at Brandywine Heights Middle School and repaying the expense of repaving our parking lot.

FIBER AND FABRIC MINISTRIES

Crocheted or knitted hats and scarves are needed for seafarers. We need to ship these by the end of November. For instructions see Phyllis Fenstermacher or Betty Eshbach.

We have sorted over 100 yards of fabric to be made into dresses for little girls in third world countries, walker bags for residents of The Lutheran Home, or quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Anyone interested in helping to cut out or sew some or knot assembled quilts, please let Sue Schlenker, Betty Eshbach, or Pastor Ruth know.

DATE SAVER:

Christmas Eve Service, December 24th at 7 p.m.
Note: There will be on only one service this year!

THE INVITATIONAL CHRISTIAN

If you do not yet have a copy of this short booklet and would like to read and even join in discussion, please see Pastor Ruth. We have obtained copies with a Thrivent Action Grant and can get more if desired.

VOCATION SUNDAY IS COMING

On Vocation Sunday we ask that each person bring a symbol of his or her vocation to be placed around the sanctuary. If you can identify more than one, bring multiple symbols. So, what is your vocation?

Many think of vocation as the way one earns a living, one's trade or profession or main occupation, but vocation is so much more. Some say the word applies to what a person does that is regarded as particularly worthy and requiring great dedication. If we think *only* in these terms, many of us, particularly the young and the unemployed and the retired might think that they have no vocation.

Merriam Webster's first definition is: a summons or strong inclination to a particular state or course of action. In fact, the word *vocation* comes from the Latin word *vocare*, to call. As Christians we often talk about what God is *calling* us to be and do.

“
The work of our freedom illuminated by the Holy Spirit discerns our own particular call at the juncture of our capacities and the needs of the world. – Frederick Bueckner
”

Thinking in these terms, many of us can identify a multitude of things to which we feel called and in which we engage. Play is a vocation for a young child, for that is how the child learns and grows. Studying is a vocation. Being a spouse, a parent, a grandparent is a vocation. Caring for others and caring for God's creation are vocations. Making music, creating art, and sewing are vocations.

“
The place God calls you to is where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. – Robert Benne, *Ordinary Saints*, p. 106
”

Think about what God has called you to at this time and place in your life. Then share an item or items that symbolize your vocation with us.

SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A SANCTUARY CHURCH?

That was the topic of discussion when members of our synod met with Bishop Zeiser on September 4th at Bern Lutheran Church.

At its triennial assembly in August delegates voted to declare the ELCA a sanctuary church. The bishop reported that following days of discussions and making decisions on ways to confront many expressions of hatred and violence in the world, the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted to approve a memorial declaring the ELCA a sanctuary church. The ELCA is the first North American denomination to declare itself a sanctuary church body.

What does this mean? Bishop Zeiser explained that in part it means that we are committed to growing in grace. He was adamant that we not let the rest of the world define what *we* mean by *sanctuary*. In fact, the memorial calls for us to work during the next three years to discern what that term means for us, even as we as individuals, congregations, and a national church put it into action.

One of the meanings of the word sanctuary is “a place of safety.” Helping people feel welcome and safe when they come to worship is an expression of offering sanctuary, as is feeding the hungry and responding to disasters. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) helps manage the largest refugee camps in the world. That, too, is part of offering sanctuary.

Becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. There are many ways to express this commitment, such as accompanying people who are seeking asylum as they work through legal steps, or, like Trinity, Reading, holding a concert to raise funds for the local Hispanic Center.

Being a sanctuary denomination does *not* mean urging anyone to do anything illegal. Individuals, congregations and other expressions of the church are and will continue to seek to discern what this means for them.

In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Being a sanctuary denomination means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work. It will look different for everyone, but

welcoming people is not a political issue for us—it is a matter of faith.

To learn more, go to ELCA.org and search for “Sanctuary Church.” Don’t forget to check out the “Talking Points.”

PREPARING FOR SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2020: ICE CREAM WITH THE BISHOP and more
Pastor Ruth attended one of the ice cream events and found it to be exciting and energizing. Bishop Zeiser and Vice President Michele Weiner were true to their word that the purpose was to listen to folks from our many congregations and encourage conversation about the priorities and challenges that face us as a synod and important qualities for the next bishop.

Michele explained the elections process which uses an “ecclesiastical ballot.” The only requirements are that the person be ordained in the ELCA and that someone has “lifted the person up.” That is, nominated him or her. The person does not have to be a member of our synod. At the beginning of the process, nominations are taken from the floor and posted. At that point nominees can remove their names from the list. Next, a series of votes are taken by written ballot until the list is whittled down to seven. These seven then spend time with representatives of each mission district, listening to concerns and answering questions. When those are over, another written vote is taken to narrow the field to three. These three then present their vision to the entire assembly before a final vote is taken.

Each congregation has been invited to make a 30 second to two-minute clip (e.g. with cell phone) about our congregation to be shared during the assembly this June, so start thinking about what we would submit. In addition, each Mission District has been asked to come up with a banner.

A LETTER OF CHRIST

St. Paul gave a wonderful compliment to the church at Corinth. “You show,” he wrote, “that you are a letter of Christ...written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God...on tablets of human hearts” (2 Corinthians 3:3, NRSV).

Would you consider yourself to be “a letter of Christ?” Whatever the case, shouldn’t that be an ambition for us all?

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

DOES WHAT WE DO MATTER? WORDS FROM A FRIEND

We often wonder whatever happened to those who grew up in this congregation and no longer worship with us. This summer one of these former members returned for a visit and shared her story with Pastor Ruth.

Thank you for the lovely card. My name was Kimberly Dietrich when I was confirmed in the spring of 1974. I checked the Bible that was gifted to me by the church to verify this.

Regarding the communion service, I believe my mother donated a chalice and paten after my stepfather passed away in 1985. Her name is Sylvia Fies, and the gift would have been made in remembrance of Gerald "Jerry" Fies. She also served on the church council before they moved to Florida in 1983.

Robby was raised Southern Baptist, so when we got together in 2014, we needed to find a church that was a fair compromise for us. I like an old-fashioned church with a structured service, and we both wanted a church that was welcoming and vibrant. We found that in Peace Memorial Presbyterian in Clearwater, FL. The church is known as the big pink church in downtown Clearwater. We are the last bastion standing next to the Church of Scientology Headquarters. If you get a chance to visit, please let us know. We as a church are very much a part of the community and very active in our service to others. I believe I mentioned that I went to Cuba on a mission trip with the church, and we serve as the cold weather shelter for North Pinellas County as well as feeding the homeless and school children with our pack-a-sack lunch program. One thing that especially warms my heart is that our benediction is "May God bless you and use you." I find this moving because my grandmother, Erma Rhode's, motto was to do one nice thing a day for someone. I try my best to live this motto.

Finally, it was bittersweet to return to New Jerusalem, but it was great for Robby to see where I come from. Thank you again to everyone at church for welcoming us so warmly.

— Kimberly Wright, Clearwater, Florida



IN OUR



Thoughts and Prayers

PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE for Those with Limited Mobility or in Care Facilities: Anna Angstadt, Bertha Bennecoff, Helen Fair, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, Leon Moyer, and Irene Noll.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND SUPPORT Members: Myles Angstadt, Kathy Bailey, Dallas Bennecoff, Erma Guinther, Virginia Guinther, Amanda Herman, Lucille Jones, Patricia Keck, Penny Keller, Phillip Litschke, Sheila Long, Roy Merkel, Grace Miller, Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Joanne Pauley, Joyce Rothermel, Sue Schlenker, Dawn Wartzluft, and Cheryl Wiltout.

Friends of the congregation: Henry Aulenbach, Carrie Bausch, Adam Bell, Carson Bosma, Bob Bright, Thelma Bright, Bill Collins, Earl Derr, Mark Derr, Randy Dreibelbis, Jennifer Engle, Eric Fox, Phyllis Graeff, Mamie Guinther, Shirley Hahn, Family and friends of Tammy Hahn, Corinne Hersh, Sue Kerny, Angie Kistler, Cayden Kresge, Anh La, Marie Leibensperger, Catherine Lenio, Ella Loose, Joe M., Phillip and Nancy Meck, Rodney Muthard, Duane Peterschein, Ruth Ramsey, Family and friends of Sandy Schappell, Leticia Weaver, Diane Whitehead, Althea Young, Carol, Pat, and Serita.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: We pray for our nation: our president, congress and judicial system, and leaders of our communities; an end for threats between nations; peace in the world; our military personnel serving around the world; areas enduring disaster; and migrants and refugees.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Millie Berger, Sandy Burkart, Evelyn Collins Don Gajewski, Erma Gajewski, Lorelai Gold, David Jenkins, Janis Kershner, Michael M., Michelle Meck, Tonya Peterschein, Arlene Reider, Leilani Rodriquez, Andrew S., Joshua S., Donna Schwoyer, Jack Stoudt, Jacqi Wagner, and Leah Wiest.

From the cup of mid-October the spice of life is poured, and with the zest of autumn's noontide comes a welcomed sense of rest.

—Anonymous



Thank you to everyone who assisted and donated food for the Fall Festival.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help serve french fries at the Oley Fair on Thursday, September 19.

Dear members of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, thank you so very much for your Harvest Home food donation! We appreciate your continued support of the Brandywine Food Pantry! – Sincerely, *St. Peter's UCC*

To New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, thank you! The vegetables you sent to the residents at Luther Meadows, via Tara Basta, were greatly appreciated. We wish to thank each and every one who made the donations possible and know the Lord will bless you for your kindness. A BIG THANK YOU AGAIN! – *The Residents of Luther Meadows at Topton*

Dear Community Contributor,

Thank you, in advance, for your support and help in the “Brandywine Backpack Buddies” campaign. As you are aware we are excited to partner with you, local churches, and others to support our community. We appreciate your commitment to continue this program in our school!

The staff of Brandywine Heights Elementary School, with your support, will be able to distribute food weekly to our most-needy students and their siblings for weekend meals. To the right is a list of food items that we are collecting. We look for lightweight and individually packed items so the backpacks don't get too heavy. We are not particular about the brands purchased (generic foods are fine.)

We are starting to collect the food items needed, and we greatly appreciate your support as we will be needing a large quantity of supplies to fill the backpacks weekly. Donations can be dropped off at the Elementary School Office, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

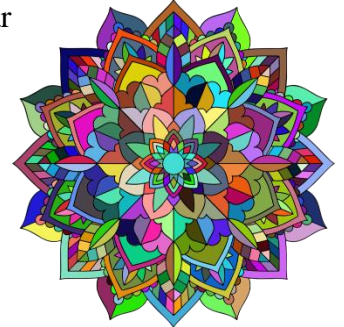
Thank you again for your generosity and willingness to help the children and their siblings of our school. We are excited to provide this for our students and we couldn't do it without you! Sincerely, *Brandywine Backpack Buddies Committee*

These are the items we are requesting. **Generic items may be purchased, but please follow the description of the item.**

- Hormel Beans & Ham, 7.5 oz. microwavable cups
- Campbell's, microwavable cups, any variety soup
- Rice-a-Roni, microwavable cups, any flavor
- Chicken of the Sea To-Go Cups, Tuna packs, cups or bags
- Chef Boyardee Lasagna, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Ravioli, 7.5 oz. microwavable cups
- Kraft Mac and Cheese, microwavable cups
- Quaker Chewy Granola Bars, any variety
- Otis Spunkmeyer Muffins, any variety, individually wrapped
- Borden Non-refrigerated Milk, 6.75 oz.
- Austin 6 Cracker Packs, any variety
- Pepperidge Farms Goldfish, 1 oz. – 1.5 oz. individual packs
- Kellogg's Cereal, individual cups or boxes, any variety
- Juice Boxes, any variety
- Popcorn, individual bags

A LOOK AT BEAUTY

Remember kaleidoscopes—those tubes you hold up to your eye and point toward the light to see colorful shapes? When the far end of the optical instrument is turned, fragments of material inside an “object cell” shift and mirrors set at angles reflect light through the pieces, forming ever-changing patterns. A multi-hued flower might become sunlight through a round stained-glass window or fireworks on a clear night.



Various materials can be placed in the cell—tiny figures, twisted bits of metal, lace, viscous liquid—but often broken bits of glass are used, to beautiful effect! In fact, David Brewster, inventor of the kaleidoscope in 1817, named it after the Greek word *kalos*, for “beauty.”

Everyone feels broken, twisted or shattered at times. But when God's perfect light shines in and through us, reflecting among the fragments of our imperfect lives, we, too, become beautiful. Out of our sinfulness and brokenness shines the beauty of compassion, kindness, perseverance, hope, love—delightful patterns to brighten this hurting world.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

NEWS & EVENTS

in the Community

PEDALS, PIPES & PIZZA – The Reading Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents Pedals, Pipes & Pizza (Introducing Young People to the Pipe Organ) on **Saturday, October 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at Maiden Creek Church, 261 Main Street, Blandon. Get a “behind the scenes” tour of how the organ works, a chance to play it yourself, and then pizza! No musical experience necessary, just come for the fun! \$5.00 registration at the door. For ages 5 and up. For more information, contact Kimberly Ayrton at 610.914.2128.

SAUSAGE SANDWICH AND IRON KETTLE SOUP SALE – **Saturday, October 5** Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers, is holding a sausage sandwich sale and soup sale on **Saturday, October 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Sandwiches are \$5/each and soup is \$6/quart or \$24/gallon. To pre-order call Renee at 484.646.9082 and leave message with name, phone number, and amounts. You can also bring your own containers to fill.

CROP HUNGER WALK – **October 13, 2019** The CROP Hunger Walk is a great fellowship and service event for families, youth groups, adult groups, and congregations. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised goes to the community in which the walk is held. The remaining 75% is used by Church World Service for disaster relief and development assistance. For more information, to register, or to donate, please go to www.crophungerwalk.org.

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 **October 15, 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.

READY.SET.READ! PROGRAM TUTORS Help make a difference in a child’s life! Volunteers are needed to tutor 2nd grade students who are struggling with reading at Oley Valley Elementary on Thursdays from 10:30-11:15 a.m. and Kutztown Elementary on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. No previous teaching experience is required. This opportunity is for anyone interested in volunteering 1 hour per week during the 2019-2020 school year. Current background clearances are required prior to assignment. Please contact Darby Wiekrykas at United Way by phone at 610.685.4574 or by email at darbyw@uwberks.org.

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH, MERTZTOWN – **Held each Wednesday Evening at 6:00 p.m.** Join Pastor Jeremiah Sassaman, members of St. Paul’s and others as they study the minor prophets of the Old Testament (the books beginning with Hosea).

PA DUTCH BAZAAR – **November 9, 2019** Join members of Longswamp UCC, Mertztown, on **Saturday, November 9, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** for homemade soup, barbecue, chow chow, pickled beets, baked goods, apple dumplings, vendors/crafters and much more!

2019 BERKS COUNTY VETERAN’S APPRECIATION DINNER DANCE – **Saturday, November 9, from 4-10 p.m.** Wilson High School Gymnasium, West Lawn. Tickets (\$15) on sale at the Customer Service desk in all Boscov’s stores in Berks County. For more information, call the Berks County Veterans Appreciation Committee at 610.378.5601, option 0.

BEYOND THE BUILDING

The Christian does not go to the temple to worship. The Christian takes the temple with him or her. Jesus lifts us beyond the building and pays the human body the highest compliment by making it his dwelling place, the place where he meets with us.

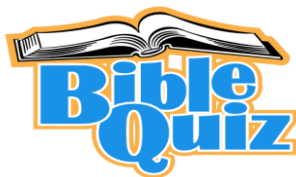
– Ravi Zacharias



- 4 Scott Beshore
- 5 Richard Boyer
- 12 Leon Moyer
- 14 Marlowe Greis
- 19 Gladys Kline
- 20 Phyllis Fenstermacher
- 20 Tina Howell
- 20 Blane Musser
- 23 Joanne Pauley
- 24 George DeLong
- 27 Luann Bennecoff
- 31 Daniel Pauley



- 1 Craig and Lynne Lounsbury (25 years)
- 12 Jason and Elizabeth Keller (6 years)
- 13 Denny and Sara Jane Beshore (46 years)
- 27 Jarrett and Amy Hahn (1 year)



Name the first three kings of Israel in the order of their reigns.

- A. Saul, David, Solomon
- B. Samuel, David, Saul
- C. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
- D. Solomon, Jesse, David



Answers: A (See 1 Samuel 9:15-17; 16:1-13; 1 Kings 1:28-

WANTS, NEEDS AND THE PATH TO CONTENTMENT

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. – 1 Timothy 6:6-9

When Apple released a new iPhone some years ago, our teenager grew unhappy with the one that had been a treasured birthday present only a few months earlier.

“I really *need* a new iPhone,” we were told with urgency and expectation. Sensible parents, we said no, pointing out that a new iPhone was definitely a *want*, not a *need*. Our teen stormed off, outraged by the injustice and deprivation.

Children and youth are forgiven for confusing *wants* and *needs*, but many of us reach adulthood without the knowledge. The distinction is especially hard to learn in our consumer culture, where every advertisement tells us that true happiness is forever *just one more* purchase away. When we believe this lie, we suffer lives of insatiable desire, ever grasping for the *newer*, the *better*, the *larger*, the *more*.

Mature faith and biblical stewardship challenge us to distinguish our *wants* from our *needs*, so that we may find contentment with “enough” — decent housing, healthy food, clean clothing and reliable transportation. No longer slaves to a desire for more, we are free to enjoy the abundant life that comes from loving relationships with God and family and neighbor.

Getting free may take discipline, but with God’s help we can grow. Faced with desire, we pray: “Is this a *need* or a *want*? If it’s a *want*, why do I sense it’s a *need*? Can I be content without it?”

Finding contentment, we open ourselves to the life God intends for us, rich and abundant in love, joy and grace.

—Rob Blezard

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“The love we give away is the only love we keep.”

—Elbert Hubbard

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Donated items in need right now: jelly, ketchup, mayonnaise, soups of all kinds, coffee, fruit juices, Chef Boyardee-style canned items (beefaroni, lasagna, etc.), chili, Hamburger Helper, snacks (cookies, chips, pretzels, pudding, etc.), flour, sugar, oatmeal, breakfast cereal, pancake syrup and mix, cooking oil, beef stew, canned meat (tuna, chicken, or Spam), Manwich or sloppy joe mix, instant rice, pasta or rice sides, ramen noodles, shampoo, bar soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent.

With the holidays approaching, the pantry is also in need of cash to assist with extra items for our neighbors.

The pantry is always in need of the following:

Canned Fruits: sliced peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, fruit cup, applesauce

Canned Vegetables: kidney beans, black beans, green beans, whole kernel corn and creamed corn, pork & beans, sweet peas, carrots, beets, yams

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

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

Drinks: hot or cold tea, water

Extra: peanut butter, marshmallow fluff

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

Baking Items: cake or brownie mix, frosting

Breakfast Food: pop tarts, pancake mix,

Paper Products: tissues, toilet paper, paper towels

Personal Care Items: body wash or bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs and hairbrushes

Cleaning and Disinfectant Products: dish soap and laundry detergent

Gluten-free and sugar-free food is also greatly appreciated.

Please check dates on donated food products.

The Brandywine Food Pantry is supported by churches, civic groups, individuals, businesses, and schools in and around the Brandywine Heights Area School District. We welcome all donations of food, personal items, or cash. Checks may be made out to **“Brandywine Food Pantry,”** and mailed to **Brandywine Food Pantry, c/o St. Peter’s United Church of Christ, 122 W. Franklin St., Tipton, PA, 19562.**

The pantry is open to area residents by appointment on the first three Tuesdays of the month and the third Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m. For appointments, call 610-682-7633 either Tuesday or Thursday or leave a message with your contact information.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

August 31, 2019

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 25,551.58
Thrivent	8,067.55
Checking	7,537.19
Youth	405.11
Fidelity	112,923.04
Cash Reserve	19,994.25
Mission Investment	11,410.46
Local Care	1,753.75
Total	<u>\$ 187,642.93</u>

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **August 31, 2018** \$ 198,213.55

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

Income	Income	Actual	Difference
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,077.08	\$ 3,785.73	\$ (5,291.35)

*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

\$ 27,746.54 Funds Received to offset expenses



THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October

6	10:00 AM	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion
* 13	10:00 AM	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
* 20	10:00 AM	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (G) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Vocation Sunday▪ Faith Formation Event at 12:00 noon
27	10:00 AM	Reformation Sunday (R) – Bring Your Bible to Church <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Holy Communion▪ Adult Forum at 12:00 noon

November

* 3	10:00 AM	All Saints' Sunday (W) – Holy Communion
10	10:00 AM	Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost (G) – Holy Communion <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stewardship Sunday▪ Congregational Meeting after worship
* 17	10:00 AM	Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost (G) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Faith Formation Event at 12:00 noon
24	10:00 AM	Christ the King Sunday (W) – Holy Communion <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stewardship Meeting after worship
27	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Service (G) – Holy Communion <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Held at Christ DeLong UCC, Bowers

December

* 1	10:00 AM	First Sunday in Advent (B) – Holy Communion
8	10:00 AM	Second Sunday in Advent (B) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Faith Formation Event at 12:00 noon
* 15	10:00 AM	Third Sunday in Advent (B)
22	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday in Advent (B)
* 24	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve (W) – Holy Communion
* 29	10:00 AM	First Sunday of Christmas (W)

FELLOWSHIP DATES:

(*) Fellowship after worship



HARVEST * Trail Mix *

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.

PUZZLE

Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.

caepe

reway

delfis

Galatians
6:9

James 3:18

John
4:35

Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____!
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answers: peace, weary, fields

OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
10/6	Tara Basta	Sara Jane Beshore	Lucille Jones	Lucille Jones
10/13	George DeLong	Gladys Kline	Dale Schwoyer	Denny and Sara Jane Beshore
10/20	Josh Keck	Ty Rissmiller	Jeannette DeLong	Phyllis Fenstermacher
10/27	Denny Beshore	Ken Keck	Larry and Faye Dey	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: *(volunteer needed)*

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: Lucille Jones

SANCTUARY CANDLE: George and Jeannette DeLong

COMMUNION BREAD: 10/6 – Gladys Kline; 10/27 – Gladys Kline

COMMUNION SET-UP: 10/6 – Gladys Kline; 10/27 – *(volunteer needed)*

COUNCILPERSON: Amy Hahn

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

OCTOBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30pm-Bell Choir 7:30pm-Adult Choir Pastor Ruth – On vacation	2 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. until October 6	3	4 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	5 9:00-12:00pm-Pedals, Pipes & Pizza, Maidencreek Church 10:00-1:00pm-Sausage Sandwich & Iron Kettle Soup Sale, Hope Lutheran, Bowers
6 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Fellowship after worship NEPS Ice Cream Tour 4:30-6:30pm-Nesting Box Market, Kempton 7:00-9:00pm-Way-Har Farms, Bernville	7 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. Pastor Ruth – Out of the	8 6:30pm-Bell Choir 7:30pm-Adult Choir office until October 9	9 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	10	11 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	12 8:30-10:30am-Breakfast for Lyons Fire Company Truck Crew
13 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Healing Service ▪ Fellowship after worship	14 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Finance Committee Mtg. 7:00pm-Council Mtg. Columbus Day	15 10:00am-Bereavement Support Forum, Lutheran Home 6:30pm-Bell Choir 7:30pm-Adult Choir	16 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	17 10:00am-Bible Study	18 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	19
20 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost ▪ Vocation Sunday ▪ Fellowship after worship 12:00pm-Faith Formation Newsletter Deadline	21 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 5:00pm-Congregational Conversations, St. Paul's, Mertztown	22 6:30pm-Bell Choir 7:30pm-Adult Choir	23 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	24	25 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	26
27 Reformation Sunday ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Bring Your Bible to Church ▪ Scouting for Food 12:00pm-Adult Forum with Attorney Keller Kline	28 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	29 6:30pm-Bell Choir 7:30pm-Adult Choir	30 12:45-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	31 Halloween		

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Bishop Zeiser Visits Germany



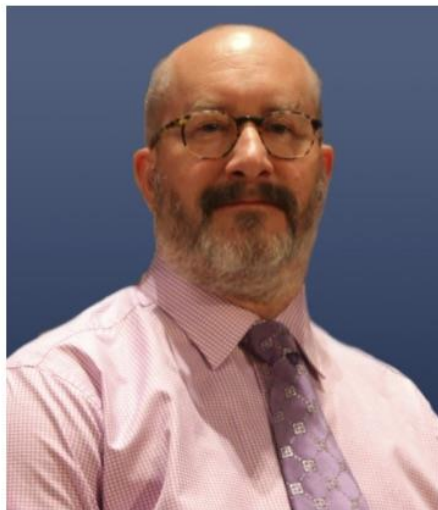
For eight days in August, Bishop Samuel Zeiser visited our companion synod, the Löbau-Zittau district of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony. After his arrival in Dresden and before his visit to the church district, Bishop Zeiser preached in Kreuzkirche (Holy Cross Lutheran Church) as part of a sermon series "Europe and the churches." He was preceded by preachers from the Czech Republic and Russia. Bishop Zeiser spoke about ecumenical relationships in our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. After the service he answered questions from members of the congregation.

Bishop Zeiser then spent several days visiting with pastors and congregations from our companion synod. He valued this opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of their history, ministries, and challenges. A special treat was meeting with Bishop Carsten Rentzing and Friedemann Oehme, the adviser for ecumenical relations in the Landeskirchenamt, Oberkirchenrat. During their trip on a Saxon steamship they not only enjoyed the beauties of the Elbe Valley, but also engaged in meaningful discussions about ecumenical cooperation and the current situation in the United States.



Another highlight was a visit to Herrenhut, the home of Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf and the Moravian church, where Bishop Zeiser toured the brand new Zinzendorf School (similar to our middle schools). The people there (in the former East Germany) were extremely proud both of this new school and an older one for developmentally challenged children located across the street.

Eric Gombert Joins Synod Support Staff



Eric Gombert has joined the team at the Synod Office as Finance Administrator/Bookkeeper having spent many years processing payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable while working for companies, churches, and even for his Homeowner's Association.

Eric was born and raised in the Lehigh Valley, graduated from Whitehall High School, and attended St. John's Lutheran in Whitehall. He is currently also the Cantor (music director) at St. John's Lutheran in Allentown, and a member of the board and the finance committee of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Eric and his husband, Matthew, enjoy spending time with their Great Dane, organic gardening, and roasting their own coffee.

Outdoor Contemporary Worship



On Sunday, August 18, five Lutheran churches (St. Paul, Mountaintop; St. John, Nanticoke; St. Mark Pond Hill; St. John, St. John's; and St. Luke, Freeland) gathered for an Outdoor Contemporary worship service, followed by a church picnic with all the trimmings.

The event was hosted by St. Paul's in Mountaintop. Steve Perillo and the Followers Band provided the music, and Pastor Michele Kaufman led the worship.

Last year the Nanticoke parish invited St. Paul to join them for an outdoor worship event. This year the invitation was

extended to St. Luke and St. John, and was tagged as "Lutheran Day." Even with 90+ degree temperatures, about 135 people came together for the worship, food, and fellowship. The band continued to entertain throughout the afternoon.

Pr. Kaufman concluded the sermon by saying: "If there is an alternative reason for our gathering today, it is to build bridges that we might work together and support one another in the future. We need to be less defensive and more cooperative. The forces in this world may be working to tear us apart, but Christ is the thread that binds us together; he calls us to be one. Working together, consider what we can accomplish."

A fall event is currently being discussed.

