

# THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

E-MAIL: [njelchurch@windstream.net](mailto:njelchurch@windstream.net)

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

OFFICE PHONE: 610.682.6064

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

*(Monday 7:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m., Wednesday 7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Thursday 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Please call ahead to make sure someone is there.)*

**“God’s work. Our hands.”**



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.*



## God's Work, Our Hands

At the beginning of September we in the United States celebrate Labor Day, a time to remember and celebrate the economic and social contributions of workers to the development and achievements of our nation.

*God's Work, Our Hands* is a tag line for the ELCA, and every Fall, often the second Sunday in September, many ELCA Churches sponsor a special activity that puts God's love into action. There is even a hymn written to remind us that this is an ongoing attitude: God's Work, Our Hands.

God's work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,  
raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and sheltering the cold.  
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.  
– Wayne L. Wold

While we here at New Jerusalem do not have anything specific planned for a onetime event this year, I think of the ways we put this idea into practice throughout the year, how we express our faith by what we do in our everyday lives and as a community.

I think of the many hands that cook and bake and serve food. I think of the many hands that dig deep into the earth, plant seeds and sprouts, pull the weeds, prune wayward branches, and harvest the crops or leave the flowers to sing God's praises to others. I think of hands that sew and knit and crochet baby blankets to welcome great grandchildren, piece quilts for refugees, or make hats and cowls for the workers who transport our goods across the seas.

I think of the hands that work in factories, preparing food or assembling and lifting batteries so that our vehicles can operate. I think of hands that dig ditches and repair our cars. I think of hands that milk the cows or gather honey from hives.

I think of hands that write on chalk boards and use the computer in order to prepare others to serve. I think of hands that practice writing skills, do their sums and take notes as they try to absorb all that is taught. I think of hands that shelve books in the library and the hands that prepare our bulletins and newsletters. I think of the hands that play the organ, piano and handbells, enhancing our ability to praise our God.

I think of hands that craft dentures so that others may be able to enjoy their food or smile once again. I think of hands that color and create works of art. I think of hands folded in prayer or lifted up to receive God's blessings.

Since September is disaster preparedness month, I think of hands reaching out to assist those impacted by fire and flood and other events that upend their lives and I think of the hands that comfort, heal and hold on to hope when others cannot feel it.

I also think of hands at rest and those who “put peace into another’s hands.”

So many hands engaged in God’s work.

There is a saying, “God has no hands on earth but ours.” And so I invite you each morning as you rise to hold out at your hands, thank God for them, and ask God to bless whatever work God will perform through your hands in the coming day. And I invite you in the evening to remember, name, maybe even write down, work you became aware of and thank God for the hands which performed it, even if you do not know whose hands they were. I invite you to pause in wonder each time, for you have witnessed God’s hands active in this world, caught sight of the hands of the One who not only healed and touched, fed and raised others from the dead, but stretched out his hands on the cross and later offered his wounded hands as a sign of his resurrection.

And so, I raise my hands in thanksgiving for the many ways your hands perform God’s work.

Be blest, take rest, and be at peace.

*Pastor Ruth*



Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church in America

**God's work.**  
**Our hands.**

# NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our Council Meeting on August 16:

- Rita Kayhart, Scout Representative, gave an update on the many activities the scouts are doing.
- Estimates are being sought to remove 3 trees near the Boy Scout cabin.
- Council and other leaders will be meeting with Assistant to the Bishop, Travis Woodfield, on August 29 to continue to consider where God is calling us as a congregation.

**OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** is **Sunday, September 19**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

## WORSHIP AT NEW JERUSALEM

**Worship in our building will be held September 5 and 19 at 10:00 a.m. Worship will be held via Zoom on September 12 and 26. Communion will be offered on the Parking Lot Saturday, September 25, at 5:00 p.m.**

**HARVEST HOME SERVICE** will take place on **Sunday, September 19th**.

## OTHER WORSHIP NOTES

For services on Zoom (September 12 and 26), you can connect with Zoom worship via internet, phone, and other devices. Links will now also be listed in the bulletins or you can call the church office if you need more information.

Bulletins are being mailed or emailed to those who request them so that they can worship at home. If you would like to receive one, please let us know at 610.682.6064 or [njelchurch@windstream.net](mailto:njelchurch@windstream.net).

Bulletins are also available on our website. Those not able to join a Zoom service, can watch them later on our Facebook page or on our website under the "Zoom Worship Services" tab. Website: <https://newjerusalem.lutheran.weebly.com>

## LINK FOR ZOOM WORSHIP

New Jerusalem Sunday Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89499550266?pwd=Mnl3bmxCMkI3TDIHZGlrNXVaVVlmZz09>

Meeting ID: **894 9955 0266**; Passcode: **27**

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,89499550266# US (Chicago)

Dial +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: **894 9955 0266**

## UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP AT NEW JERUSALEM

Our current guidelines are listed below, but may change as the infection rate changes around us. The guiding principle is love of God and love for our neighbor, including the vulnerable among us.

- 1) For the time being, seating will be every other pew. This can be further discussed in the future. Members will be directed as to where to sit.
- 2) If you have been vaccinated for COVID, you have the choice of taking your mask off or leaving it on. If you are not vaccinated, we recommend that you wear a mask.
- 3) At present masks are not required while singing, but given that singing is known to greatly accelerate the particles we exhale, masks can provide extra protection for all. Especially if you are not vaccinated, it is highly recommended that you wear a mask if you choose to sing.
- 4) Communion will be held the first Sunday of the month in your pew.
- 5) Communion on the Parking Lot will be held the last Saturday of the month so as to include those who don't feel safe to come into church. This will continue until the fall.
- 6) For the time being, we will continue to do in-church worship on the first and third Sundays of the month and Zoom services on the other Sundays. Further research and discussion is taking place about live broadcasting and recording church services to accommodate those not able to worship in the building.

The Worship and Music Committee, the council and our Task Force will continue to monitor the situation and will make modifications as they deem it wise.

## PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Ruth will be out of town from after church September 26 until October 4. Pastoral Care coverage will be provided by Pastor Jeremiah Sassaman who can be reached at 610.657.0269.

## NEW JERUSALEM FALL FESTIVAL

At their recent meeting, the Stewardship Committee made the decision to not hold the Fall Festival for this year. We hope to be able to hold it another time when we have more help available.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

With the help of Thrivent grants, our congregation has recently sent 5 clean-up buckets to Lutheran Disaster Response to be used in response to local flooding and we cut, tied and sent 8 fleece blankets for children who participated at the Camp Noah held at the Oley Fairgrounds August 2-6. Thank you to all who participated in making our responses possible.

## BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study group is currently studying Paul's letter to the Romans. In this letter Paul spells out many of the core concepts of our Christian faith. It is while reading this letter that Martin Luther discovered God's grace, that we are saved by God's undeserved love and not by works. Bible Study will be held on **Mondays, September 13 and 20 at 11:00 a.m.** via Zoom. Let Pastor Ruth know if you would like to join.

## COLORING GROUP

Our Coloring Group continues meeting monthly to color Bible-themed pages while visiting with one another. The next meeting is **Thursday, September 2, at 10:00 a.m.** Pages and supplies provided, but feel free to bring your own. There is plenty of room to maintain a safe distance from one another. Participants are asked to wear masks. Friends are welcome.

Not able to get to church or don't feel comfortable getting together there? Just let them know and pages will be sent to you and you can visit with other members by phone.

If you are interested, please let Phyllis Fenstermacher (610.682.2423) or Diane Keller (610.682.4152) know.

## THREADS FOR OTHERS

Keep on knitting and crocheting for the Seafarers. If you need material to make masks or yarn for cowls and hats for seafarers, let Pastor Ruth know.

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SPONSORS

The cost to sponsor bulletins for a week is still \$7.00 and sponsorship of the Sanctuary Candle is \$15.00 for a month. If you would like to sponsor any of the available dates below, please leave a message on the church answering machine with your dedication. Thank you!

Since the pandemic limits our ability to gather, we are now mailing bulletins to members. The cost for that is about \$45 per week. Any contributions to help offset this cost are appreciated.

### Altar Flowers for September:

September 5 – Faye and Larry Dey

September 19 – *sponsor needed*

### Bulletin Sponsors for September:

September 5 – Faye and Larry Dey

August 12 – *sponsor needed*

August 19 – Gladys Kline

August 26 – *sponsor needed*

### Sanctuary Candle Sponsor for September:

Elaine Seip

### Children's Bulletins for September:

*sponsor needed*

### **God's Work, Our Hands (sung to the tune we know as "Earth and All Stars")**

1. God's work, our hands: working together,  
building a future, repairing the world,  
raising up homes, planting new gardens,  
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.  
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your  
name, sharing the good news of your gospel.
4. God is at work in and around us:  
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!  
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,  
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.  
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954. Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Tune: Earth and All Stars.

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## DO SOMETHING

God wants our work to be meaningful and satisfying. No matter what we do, it should provide a reason to get up each day and use the talents God has given us. As Benjamin Franklin said, "The man who achieves makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all: doing nothing."



## WITH OUR SYMPATHY

Our condolences to the family and friends of Patricia Keck who passed away on July 25, 2021. A funeral service was held at K. V. Knopp Funeral Home on Friday, July 30.

Keep the family and friends of George DeLong, who passed away on July 26, 2021, in your thoughts and prayers. A memorial service was held at Walbert Funeral Home on Saturday, July 31.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Gary Seyfert who passed away on August 4, 2021. A funeral service was held at Mae Stump Funeral Home on Friday, August 20.

Again, our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Roy Merkel who passed away on August 17. A funeral service was held at Ludwick Funeral Home on Monday, August 23, at 10:30 a.m.

While we mourn these losses in our church family, we rejoice that each is at peace in the arms of our Savior. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

### **God, Bless the Hands (sung to the tune we know as “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”)**

1. God, bless the hands stretched out in love  
through floods below and storms above;  
they search and rescue, comfort, calm,  
give shelter, offer healing balm.  
Oh, guard them by your steadfast hand;  
reach out in love to help us stand.
2. Bring comfort to the hearts that mourn,  
left broken, emptied by the storm.  
Give hope to those in deepest grief;  
empower us to bring relief.  
To you, O God, we raise our hands.  
Save us, we pray, from sinking sands.
3. O God, our strength and refuge sure,  
our hope while storms of life endure:  
teach us to live in harmony  
with earth and river, sky and sea,  
preserving waters, air, and lands  
as holy work for human hands.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text © 2019 GIA Publications, Inc.,  
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<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne,  
and to the Lamb.”

<sup>11</sup> All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying:

“Amen!

Praise and glory  
and wisdom and thanks and honor  
and power and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever.  
Amen!”

<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

<sup>14</sup> I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>

Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne  
will shelter them with his presence.

<sup>16</sup> ‘Never again will they hunger;  
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,’  
nor any scorching heat.

<sup>17</sup> For the Lamb at the center of the throne  
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

– Revelation 7:9-17

### **GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH.**

The reports of people in distress just seem endless. They can leave us feeling helpless. As we listen to the current news, our hearts go out to our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan, Haiti and our western states. Even as our hands hold them in prayer, we, as people of faith, know that there is more that we can do together as a God’s hands in the world.

Lutheran Disaster Response is actively involved in response to the fires in the U.S. and working with Lutheran World Relief to respond to the desperate needs Haiti. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services is working through a program called Neighbors in Need to assist those from Afghanistan who are being brought to the U.S. Most arrive without money, a place to stay, or anything to eat.

Gifts can be made to these programs through our congregation or by contacting the following:

**Lutheran Disaster Response** - Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. 800.638.3522. (community.elca.org/Lutherandisasterresponse).

**Lutheran World Relief** – P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD. 21297-1061 (lwr.org/give) 800.597.5972.

**Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services** – 700 Light Street, Baltimore, MD, 21230 (lirs.org) 410.230.2700.

### “HANDS TO WORK, HEARTS TO GOD”

The Shakers community had a slogan: Hands to work, hearts to God.

One author commented on this belief.

“Hands are to work, for our own well-being, for the well-being of those we love, and for the well-being of those we don’t love. Our hearts are to God, for guiding us as we share the wealth of our lives, our churches, and our communities for the love of all people.” *Hands to Work, Hearts to God / 50 Days*  
For more about the Shakers read the entire article or look up *Shakers* or *Pleasant Hill*.

### Put Peace into Each Other’s Hands (sung to the tune “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”)

1. Put peace into each other’s hands  
And like a treasure hold it;  
Protect it like a candle flame,  
With tenderness enfold it.
2. Put peace into each other’s hands  
With loving expectation;  
Be gentle in your words and ways,  
In touch with God’s creation.
3. Give thanks for strong yet tender hands,  
Held out in trust and blessing.  
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,  
The heights of love expressing.

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### PRAYER:

“Teach me, O God, so to use all the circumstances of my life today that they may bring forth in me the fruits of holiness rather than the fruits of sin.”

Let me use disappointment as material for patience.  
Let me use success as material for thankfulness.  
Let me use trouble as material for perseverance.  
Let me use danger as material for courage.  
Let me use reproach as material for long suffering  
Let me use praise as material for humility.  
Let me use pleasures as material for temperance.  
Let me use pain as material for endurance.

John Baile, As quoted in George Appleton, *Journey for a Soul* (Glasgow: William Collins, 1974), 222. And then quoted in *Prayer Does It Make Any Difference* – Philip Yancey, p. 240.



- 2 Dawn Wartzluft
- 10 Larry Dey
- 10 Regina Kohl
- 11 Virginia Guinther
- 16 Dorothy Turner
- 17 Shirley Hertzog
- 17 Alan Carl
- 17 Taylor Cleaver
- 20 Ty Rissmiller
- 21 Michael Barlet
- 21 Madison Cleaver
- 24 Andrew Musser
- 25 Elaine Seip
- 25 Kenneth Wiltrout
- 28 Carrie Paige Lambert
- 28 Brooke Wengert
- 30 Ronald Herman



- 6 David and Dawn Wartzluft (24 years)
- 9 Randy and Luann Bennecoff (49 years)
- 20 Ronald and Wilma Herman (46 years)

## New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

**July 31, 2021**

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 21,492.73
Thrivent	11,200.28
Checking	3,990.92
Youth	406.56
Fidelity	90,642.00
Cash Reserve	14,414.93
Mission Investment Fund	11,594.21
Local Care	<u>2,125.31</u>

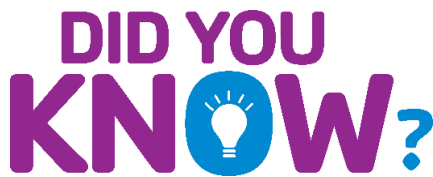
Total: \$ 155,866.94

Total Balance of Asset Accounts  
from **July 31, 2020** \$ 162,148.36

### **July 2021 – ‘Actual’ vs. ‘Required’ Income**

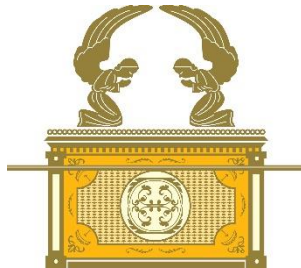
Income			
Income	Required	Actual	
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,651.25	\$ 3,887.00	(\$ 5,764.25)

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2021  
Budget Passed by Congregation  
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution*



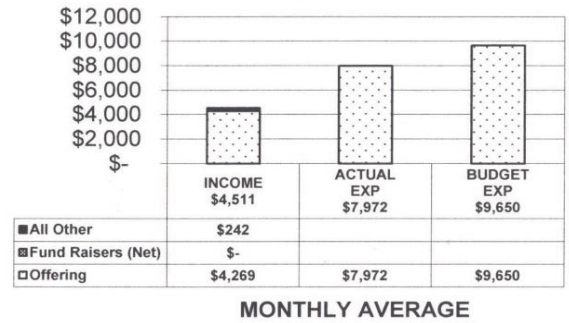
### **ARK OF THE COVENANT**

For the Israelites, the Ark of the Covenant was at the center of worship. It contained the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, a pot of manna and Aaron’s rod. In the Old Testament, the ark was a visible representation of God’s throne, or presence, on earth, where he communed with Moses and the high priests. It also represents our earthly bodies, where the Holy Spirit dwells.



– Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

### JUNE 2021 YEAR-TO-DATE INCOME AND EXPENSE



### CALENDAR YEAR 2021 INFORMATION NORMAL OPERATIONS (DOES NOT INCLUDE MAJOR REPAIRS/PURCHASES)

<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENSE ACTIVITY JUNE 2021 YEAR-TO-DATE</b>		
	Jun Y-T-D	Average Month
<b>Income</b>		
Offering	\$ 25,614	\$ 4,269
Fund Raisers	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 1,454	\$ 242
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 27,068</b>	<b>\$ 4,511</b>
<b>Actual Exp</b>	<b>\$ 47,834</b>	<b>\$ 7,972</b>
<b>Budget Exp</b>	<b>\$ 57,897</b>	<b>\$ 9,650</b>
<b>Shortage *</b>	<b>\$ (30,829)</b>	<b>\$ (5,138)</b>

\*NOTE: Shortage - Total Income to 2021 BUDGET Expense  
Less Benevolence

### **THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT!**

These days, there’s a smartphone app for just about everything. But what about spiritual concerns? Where can you turn?

- Depressed? Try the joy app. Read Isaiah 51:11.
- Tired? Try the renewal app. Read Isaiah 40:30-31.
- Unsettled? Try the peace app. Read Philippians 4:7.
- Unloved? Try the love app. Read Romans 8:38-39.
- Worried? Try the refuge app. Read Psalm 46:1.
- Fearful? Try the power app. Read 2 Timothy 1:7.
- Guilty? Try the forgiveness app. Read Colossians 1:13-14.
- Praying? Try the prayer app. Read 1 John 5:14-15.

The Scriptures are God’s storehouse of meaningful applications for what we face every day. Think of the Bible as the iTunes Store of spiritual apps. Best of all, everything’s free!

– Timothy Merrill

– Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



## STEWARDSHIP IS ABOUT GOOD PRIORITIES

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

Jesus taught, “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” – **Luke 12:32**

The Bible makes it clear that God has given us all that we have and all that we are. This includes not just our money and possessions, but also our relationships, our character strengths, our time, our intelligence, the special talents and skills we may possess, and so much more.

Biblical stewardship invites us to use all these gifts in God-pleasing ways—not for God’s benefit, but for ours. We are the ones who benefit when we invest ourselves, our time and our possessions in ways that are in sync with God’s purposes.

The more we align our lives with God’s purposes, the happier and more fulfilled we become. And why not? We are learning to live more fully as disciples of Jesus, approaching more fully the abundant life he promised us. We grow in awareness and set new priorities that bring us closer to God.

If that sounds appealing to you, why not begin? Pick an area of your life that you’d like to align with God’s purposes. Maybe your relationships? Your money? How about your time?

Then, honestly and prayerfully consider: How are you using that gift? Talk it over with your pastor or prayer partner. Ask God to give you insight and to reveal your blind spots. Pray for guidance on how you can better use your gifts.

It takes time, but it’s so worth it. When our priorities are in sync with God’s purposes, we are not only stewarding our lives well, but also opening the door to greater personal fulfillment and joy.

—Rob Blezard

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

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND SUPPORT Members:** Myles Angstadt, Dallas and Nancy Bennecoff, Sara Jane Beshore, Family and friends of George DeLong, Erma Guinther, Virginia Guinther, Lucille Jones, Family and friends of Patricia Keck, Sheila Long, Forrest Merkel, Family and friends of Roy Merkel, Edna Miller, Grace Miller, Lloyd and Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Dan and Joanne Pauley, Horace and Joyce Rothermel, Gabriele Sanders, Dale Schwoyer, Family and friends of Gary Seyfert.

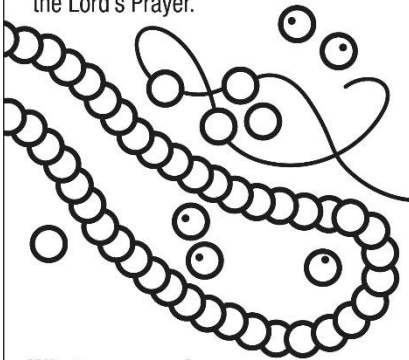
**Friends of the congregation:** Michael Basta, Carrie Bausch, Adam Bell, Darlene Bogert, Bob Bright, Thelma Bright, Joshua Buck, Mitch Burkhart, Cindy Denby, Mark Derr, Randy Dreibelbis, Lori Eck, Jennifer Engle, Nicole F., Dennis Grof, Jason Grof, Mamie Guinther, Shirley Hahn, Nancy Harnish, Family and friends of Dave Jenkins, Johnson-Agiri Family, Debra Kenny, Barry Kershner, Angie Kistler, Kelly Kline, The Koontz Family, Cayden Kresge, Michelle Kurtz, Catherine Lenio, Ella Loose, Joe M., Mike Mattiuz, Rodney Miller, Johnathan Naugle, Ruth Ramsey, Lexi Recke, Tierney Schmeer, Patricia Sigfried, Thomas Spraut, Robert Taylor, Jacqi Wagner, Leticia Weaver, Linda Wegman, Richard Weller, Terry White, Althea Young, Barry, Lynn, Pat, Sam, and Tim.

**OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS:** We pray for all seeking to respond responsibly to COVID-19, especially healthcare workers; our nation, including our president, congress, judicial system, and leaders of our communities; an end to the many ways prejudice and systemic racism maintain inequality between people and injustice; an end to 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:** Gary DeWees, Don Gajewski, Erma Gajewski, Lorelai Gold, Denise Haage, Amanda Herman, David Jenkins, Janis Kershner, Mary Kring, Michelle Meck, Arlene Reider, Leilani Rodriguez, Andrew S., Donna Schwoyer, the Spatz Family, and Leah Wiest.

## Prayer bracelet

Make this craft to help you remember the Lord's Prayer.



### What you need:

- Elastic string (12 inches)
- Colored beads (see below)
- Clear nail polish

### What you do:

1. Knot the string at one end. Add beads in this order: blue, white, gold, green, yellow, red, black, orange
2. Tie the ends so the bracelet fits your wrist. Place a dot of nail polish to secure the knot. Trim excess string.
3. As you pray, use the bead colors as reminders of Jesus' words (see Matthew 6:9-13):

- **blue** = the Father
- **white** = God's holiness
- **gold** = God's kingdom
- **green** = the earth
- **yellow** = wheat (bread)
- **red** = Christ's blood (forgiveness)
- **black** = temptation
- **orange** = God's power to deliver



## Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

*Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.*

party - t = p r a y (v. 1)

lady + i = \_ \_ l \_ \_ (v. 3)

drab + e = \_ \_ d \_ \_ \_ (v. 5)

rod + o = \_ \_ r \_ \_ (v. 7)

bask - b = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

keeps - p = k \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

define - ee = \_ \_ d \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

shift - t = \_ \_ \_ \_ s (v. 11)

sneaky - y = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sift + g = \_ \_ \_ \_ s (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts, Holy Spirit



# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

SEPTEMBER 2021 • ISSUE 9 • VOLUME 29

## AN INCREDIBLE RETURN TO THE WOODS AT THE END OF THE RED DIRT ROAD

BY COLLIN GROOMS

No one would have asked to have a summer of youth camp canceled because of COVID, but certainly, as with any challenge, it is good when the positives of a situation can be found. Having a summer away from the routines of camp as it has “always been” gave Bear Creek Camp an opportunity to truly look at creating the camp experiences that campers and staff need right now.

In a world where we’ve been separated from our friends and families, taking the time to build a small, intentional community was most essential. This summer, each quest group crafted their own experience as they creatively planned their week’s activities. For some that meant nature hikes into the depths of our woods or discovering every swimming location. For others that meant time on the high ropes course or writing new songs to be sung at bonfires.



*Continuing  
Promises*



For every group that meant finding unique ways to explore their faith through daily bible study and worship experiences. Camp has an enduring quality of being the place where campers can find whatever they are needing in the moment. Faith can be discovered and strengthened. Lifelong friends can be made. Personal discovery happens constantly as we're taken away from our comfort zones and shown a newly revealed world. Summer 2021 was an incredible return to the woods at the end of the red dirt road. We are so deeply grateful for our entire community that supported us in reaching this new beginning.



## GROWING TOGETHER IN NEPSYNOD: MINLAB

On August 14, 2021 people from all over the NEPSynod gathered at the Lutheran Center to share ministry, ideas, and God's love with one another. Individuals who participated in MinLab were able to work together to build relationships with one another and the ministries of the other through authentic engagement, conversation, and questions. *The relationships we build at synod assemblies, special events, and through mutual collaboration are paramount to our work as Church.*

At MinLab, participants learned more about Growing Young and elements that are present in ministries that are actively "growing young." Participants also learned that congregational and organizational ministry is at the center of our work as a synod. *The synod is not a top-down organization, but instead, a collaboration of people working together to serve God's people.* Leaders in our synod, both lay and ordained, can't wait to see where the Spirit will lead us next.

# SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	2 10:00am-Coloring Group	3 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	4
5 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship in the building w/ Holy Communion	6 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>LABOR DAY</b>	7	8 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	9	10 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	11 9:00am-11:00am- Super Saturday Virtual Workshop
12 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship on Zoom  "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday	13 11:00am-Bible Study via Zoom 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg. 7:00pm-Council Meeting	14 11:00am-Worship and Music Committee Mtg.	15 11:30am-Tentative Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	16	17 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	18
19 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship in the building ▪ Harvest Home Service  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 11:00am-Bible Study via Zoom 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	21	22 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	23	24 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.	25 5:00pm-Communion on the Parking Lot
26 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship on Zoom  Pastor Ruth on Vacation	27 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.  Pastor Ruth on Vacation	28  Pastor Ruth on Vacation	29 12:45pm-1:45pm-AA Mtg.  Pastor Ruth on Vacation	30  Pastor Ruth on Vacation		