

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522

Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

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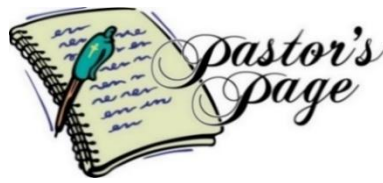
Office Phone: 610.682.6064

Church Office Hours: Monday, 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.*



Come, you thankful people, come.
Raise the song of harvest home. ¹

Dear Fellow Saints, each saved by God's grace and working together in God's family,

November is a month focused on Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving for all God has, does, and promises to provide. Many are already planning how they will celebrate Thanksgiving Day. At New Jerusalem we have already begun filling boxes so that struggling families in our community can have a special meal.

For Christians, this month begins not with a focus on food, but on giving thanks for believers in Christ. At its very start, November 1, we celebrate All Saints Day. In fact, Halloween, which gets a lot of attention this time of year, is so named because it is the evening before All Saints, All Hallows' Day. Hence, it is called *All Hallows' evening*, shortened to Hallowe'en. As we begin this month with a celebration of *all* saints — those who have gone before us, those who are living, and those still to come — we sing:

Rejoice in God's saints today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise. ²

Since saints are humans, humans adopted into God's family by God's grace, sometimes it's hard to understand or even recognize them. Their behavior may not match what we think God wants, or anything we might do, but, nevertheless, God has and is using them to give us and the world a glimpse of how to do God's will on earth as it is in heaven. Their actions and ours are ways God is bringing God's kingdom in its fullness.

Some march with events to turn them God's way; some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood: our world is their parish, their purpose is God. ²

If we don't see ourselves or fellow believers and loved ones in that description, we might in this:

Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown, who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own:
they share our complaining, our comforts, our cares: what patience in caring, what courage is theirs! ²

These days, and especially as the world is focused on the pandemic, economic upheaval and our election, it may be hard to feel thankful, much less to celebrate God's gracious love, or to look forward to Thanksgiving Day. But God has promised that God's kingdom *will* come in its fullness and *is* breaking into our world, even now. And so, on November 22, we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday, when we recognize that the crucified One *is* the ruler of all that exists and *will* bring in God's kingdom in its fullness. Then, on November 29, we will begin our Advent season, the season of reminding ourselves and the world of how to look for signs of that the Promised One is coming into our messy world, into our chaos and uncertainty, into our midst.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, in thy garner to abide,
Come with all thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home! ¹

And so, my sisters and brothers, I rejoice in you, God's saints, each day and all days, for by your living and loving and ways of self-giving, you continue to encourage me and teach me how to focus on God's will. May God, through us and all the saints, make sure the world does not forget how to praise.

Pastor Ruth

1. Henry Alford, 1810-1871

2. Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000 ELW 418

NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our council meeting on October 19:

- Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller helped us think about the future of ministry through New Jerusalem, given the changing times and the resources available. A number of options were offered to help us begin brainstorming and envisioning possibilities.
- Denny Beshore shared information about our financial situation, noting not only that we need to be paying attention to dwindling amounts in our various accounts and planning for the future, but also that the congregation “has been here before.”
- Council began to discuss ways to engage members of the congregation in conversations and brainstorming about the future of our ministry. A note was made that there are a number of other Lutheran congregations near us that are facing the same challenges.

BIBLE STUDY

Continues at 11:00 a.m. on Mondays, November 2, 9, 16 and 23 via Zoom. Currently we are in the last 8 chapters of The Book of Acts. If you would like to join us, call or email Pastor Ruth and she can send you the link.

THREADS FOR OTHERS

Hats, scarves and cowls are due by **December 1** for this year’s shipment to Seafarers. Don’t stop knitting or crocheting, though. We will send more next year. If you need material to make masks or yarn for cowls and hats for seafarers, let Pastor Ruth know. Supplies are available at church.

DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the December 2020 newsletter is **Sunday, November 15**. Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by this date.

WORSHIP AT NEW JERUSALEM

As we continue to monitor the pandemic in our area, we are, as of this writing, offering three ways to worship with members of our congregation. We know not everyone feels safe gathering with others in the sanctuary, so we are trying to make sure there are options.

On **November 1, All Saints Sunday**, we will have a short worship service in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m., followed by **Communion on the Parking Lot at 11:00 a.m.** Since the outside altar will be set up outside the Scout Cabin, **please park facing up toward the cemetery.** You are welcome to stay in your car or bring a lawn chair. Everyone outside a car is expected to wear a mask.

Worship will again be **in the sanctuary** on **November 15**. We will be worshipping via **Zoom** on **Sunday, November 8, 22, and 29 at 10:00 a.m.**

Information on how to connect for Zoom worship via internet, phone, and other methods is available. If you are not already receiving information about how to connect, please contact the church office.

In addition to these three opportunities to “gather,” bulletins are being mailed or emailed to those who request them so that they can worship at home. Those not able to join us for our Zoom worship services on Sunday mornings, can watch the services on our Facebook page or on our website <https://newjerusalem.lutheran.weebly.com> under the “Zoom Worship Services” tab. We actually know that people who are not members are joining us in worship through these means, so this has become an opportunity for sharing the good news with others, an opportunity for what is known as evangelism.

If you would like to receive a bulletin via mail or email, please let us know at 610.682.6064 or njelchurch@windstream.net.

Bulletins are also available on our website: <http://NewJerusalemLutheran.weebly.com>.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE WORSHIP Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Community Services will be held at both Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, Dryville, and at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Mertztown.

STILL LOOKING FOR YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS, especially those for Advent and Christmas.

COLORING GROUP

Our Coloring Group continues meeting monthly. On **Thursday, November 5, at 10:00 a.m.** the group will get together downstairs at church to color Bible-themed pages while visiting with one another. Pages provided. Feel free to bring your own supplies, though colored pencils and markers will also be provided. There is plenty of room to maintain a safe distance from one another. Participants are asked to wear masks. Friends are welcome.



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

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Envelopes for the first half of 2021 have been ordered and should be arriving in your mailbox the first or second week of December. If you do not receive your envelopes, please contact the church office.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SPONSORS

The cost to sponsor bulletins for a week is still \$7.00 and sponsorship of the Sanctuary Candle is \$15 for a month. Altar Flowers can also be sponsored on the Sundays we gather in our church building. The cost for sponsorship is \$35.00.

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.

Flower Sponsors for November:

November 1 – Lisa Landis

November 15 – *sponsor needed*

Bulletin Sponsors for November:

November 1 – *sponsor needed*

November 8 – *sponsor needed*

November 15 – *sponsor needed*

November 22 – *sponsor needed*

November 29 – Cheryl Wiltrout

Sanctuary Candle Sponsor for November:

Gladys Kline

PASTORAL CARE DURING THE CURRENT SITUATION

Pastor Ruth is available via phone and electronic means to provide care to anyone in our congregation or seeking care from us. Currently, she is monitoring whether and when she is allowed

to enter hospitals or meeting with nursing home patients. At times she has been able to “meet” and even offer communion while standing outside a window or door and speaking on the phone. Please continue to let her know when someone enters the hospital or when anyone is experiencing a change in health or situation.

Please note that pastoral care services (chaplains) are available at each hospital to support and attend to patients' diverse spiritual needs. So even if Pastor Ruth cannot or does not deem it wise to enter a facility, care is available. Some of our parishioners have reported excellent care from these servants and, at times, when given permission, pastors and chaplains are in dialogue to enhance that care.

HOT OFF THE PRESS! REPORT FROM SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Our thanks to Dale Schwoyer and Sara Jane Beshore who, along with Pastor Ruth, represented New Jerusalem at the Synod Assembly.

The big news is that **Pastor Chris deForest** has been elected bishop. He is currently serving Trinity, Kutztown. Pastor deForest will be installed December 5 and will take office January 1.

Our prayers are with Pastor deForest and also with the congregation of Trinity, Kutztown which will need to seek another pastor.

AN HISTORIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH A COMPANION SYNOD

On Thursday, November 22, Dale Schwoyer and Pastor Ruth witnessed the signing of an agreement for mutual support between the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and The Evangelical Lutheran Church District (Synod) of Löbau-Zittau, Germany. While these two synods have been working together as companion synods for almost 30 years, it wasn't until a few years ago that we have been able to draw up a statement of understanding.

New Jerusalem has, over the years, helped to host visitors from The Evangelical Lutheran Church District Löbau-Zittau. Remember when we served breakfast to a group of high school students? This is also the area Sue and Cliff Schlenker and Pastor Ruth visited in 2016 when Sue and Cliff helped to plant a tree in the Luther Garden in Wittenberg.

“Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love.” – St. Therese of Lisieux

LEARNING MINISTRIES DAY 2021

January 23, 2021. Learning Ministries Day 2021 is Going On-Line! Plan to join us Saturday January 23, 2021 when our keynote speaker will be Dr. Barbara Rossing, author of "The Rapture Exposed." Dr. Rossing will speak on "Journeys Through Revelation," and a number of workshops will be offered as well. More details to follow, so please check the [synod website](#) for more information.

UPDATE ON STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Yes, these are a lot of opportunities all at once, but we had 6 grants available to us that had to be used by December 31.

Note: Items to be donated may be brought to any worship service. If you need to drop them off at any other time, please contact the church office to arrange a time to do so. If you have items to contribute, but need to have them picked up, also contact the office.

So far, our congregation has applied for and received a \$250 Thrivent grant each for the following:

EXTRA FOOD FOR THE BRANDYWINE FOOD PANTRY – We will use the grant to supplement what the congregation collects. Please let us know if you have, are, or will be donating items between September 1st and November 1st so we can accurately report our participation to Thrivent.

THANKSGIVING BOXES – Through Friend, Inc. 10 of our members contributed the items to fill two boxes. With the extra \$250 we have been able to fill an additional 12 for a grand total of **14**.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CHILDREN – In addition to the 18 people from our congregation who are providing gifts, the Thrivent grant has enabled us to purchase gifts for 8 more children. This means our ministry will help put smiles on **26** local children this year.

SATCHELS FOR SEAFARERS. This year, in addition to providing hats, scarves and cowls, we have decided to help fill satchels for "Christmas at Sea." Here are the items that are included in each:

- One sweatshirt (hooded or unhooded - size M-L-XL)



- Three pairs of socks (thermal or gym)
- One t-shirt (size M-L-XL)
- One knitted winter cap (coordinating scarf optional; no pastels please)
- One can of nuts, large bar of chocolate, or health snack bar
- A Holiday or Christmas card from YOU!

You pick the colors, styles and brands, but please no substitutions from the list. For the safety of seafarers, please do not add fringes or pom-poms. **and T-shirts of the same size.**

If you would like to contribute any of these items, please get them to church by **November 22** so we can fill what is needed using the Thrivent grant. Scarves, etc. are due **December 1**.

Stewardship Committee is also sponsoring two additional collections for which we will also apply for Thrivent grants.

CLEAN-UP BUCKETS for survivors of physical disasters:

- One five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid (no screw lids – may be used but free of residual product. Advertisement on outside okay)
- One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner (no spray cleaners)
- One 16-34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap
- One 4-8 oz. pump spray air fresheners (or 3 solid or 3 gel)
- One 6-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent (or pack of 10-20 wipes) pump spray must have protective covers
- One scrub brush (with or without handle)
- One 18 reusable cleaning wipes (no terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels, remove from packaging)
- Five scouring pads (no stainless steel or pads with soap – remove from packaging)
- 36-50 clothes pins (place in plastic re-sealable bag)
- One 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic)
- 24 roll of heavy duty trash bags (33-45 gal. sizes)
- 5 N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3 mm thick) no surgical masks
- 2 pairs kitchen gloves (durable)
- One pair work gloves (cotton with leather palms or all leather)

Items due by **December 13**. The Thrivent grant will help us fill in items in each bucket. *Note: we have opened this appeal to other congregations in the area. Let's see what we can do together!*

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY FOOD PANTRY

Food and personal care products are needed by students at the university. These are distributed through the Lutheran Center, 15175 Kutztown Road. Please bring your items to New Jerusalem by **December 27**. The Thrivent grant will help us purchase additional items.

A STORY OF FAITH IN ACTION

This time about us. This month's story of Faith in Action definitely belongs under News from our Congregation.

We recently received a video from Operation Bootstrap Africa highlighting the new kitchen at Olchoki Primary School in Tanzania. Remember Olchoki? In 2017, after seeing pictures and hearing about Pastor Ruth's trip to Tanzania, our congregation challenged itself to raise the funds to buy one of the three stoves needed by the school to enable them to feed their 1,400 students one meal a day. By June 2019, **we did it!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bT2ITdG1nB8&t=14s>

COMING SOON TO YOUR MAILBOX

- Information about the Congregational Meeting to vote on the 2021 budget. This will be held Sunday, November 22, via Zoom immediately following worship. All members, even if they do not have computer connection, should be able to phone in and vote.
- Advent calendars and devotionals and the current ELCA Good Gifts catalogue.

NEWS & EVENTS

in our Community












CONGREGATION CONVERSATIONS

During our October 14th meeting we joined neighboring congregations in continuing to support one another and to identify and discuss ideas for ministries we can do together. Plans are in progress for two community Thanksgiving services, activities during Advent, and even a start on planning for Lent. Seeds are being planted for some innovative ways to spread the gospel. Watch for some exciting things to happen.

Pastor Jeremiah volunteered to collect and disperse info about each congregation's activities so we can each publicize those.

COLD, FLU, OR COVID-19?

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, call your primary care physician or other healthcare provider. They will provide instruction on the steps to take.

SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU	COVID-19
 FEVER		Common	Common
 SORE THROAT	Common	Sometimes	Sometimes
 ACHES & PAINS		Common	Sometimes
 DIARRHEA			Sometimes
 HEADACHE	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL			Sometimes
 COUGHING	Common	Common	Common
 FATIGUE	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 SHORTNESS OF BREATH			Sometimes
 SNEEZING	Common	Sometimes	
 RUNNY NOSE	Common		Sometimes

FIGHTING COVID FATIGUE

Yes, we are definitely tired of it all, but the best way to defeat the pandemic is through ongoing vigilance. This includes wearing our masks properly: making sure they cover our mouths *and* our noses, not removing them or lifting them while we are speaking unless we are very well distanced, (e.g. speaking from a mic in a large gathering hall), washing our hands regularly, being very careful with what we now refer to as "social distancing" and being careful with whom and how many people we gather, even if they are family members.

Yes, it is really hard to continue to be cautious, especially during the holiday season, but we do it out of love: love for our family and neighbors and love for the body God has given us.

Prayer: O God, we are tired. We are tired of all the changes, how we have to be so cautious even around those we love and long to kiss and hug. We are tired of hearing all the bad news: cases going up, no definite vaccine in sight, the possibility of further restrictions, even if they are for our own good. We long for good news. Amen.



Daylight Savings Time Ends on **Sunday, November 1st**. Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts

September 30, 2020

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 19,691.48
Thrivent	8,621.74
Checking	6,203.73
Youth	406.50
Fidelity	94,462.63
Cash Reserve	14,884.03
Mission Investment	11,538.41
Local Care	2,051.43

Total: \$ 157,859.95

Total Balance of Asset Accounts
from **September 30, 2019** \$ 188,029.58

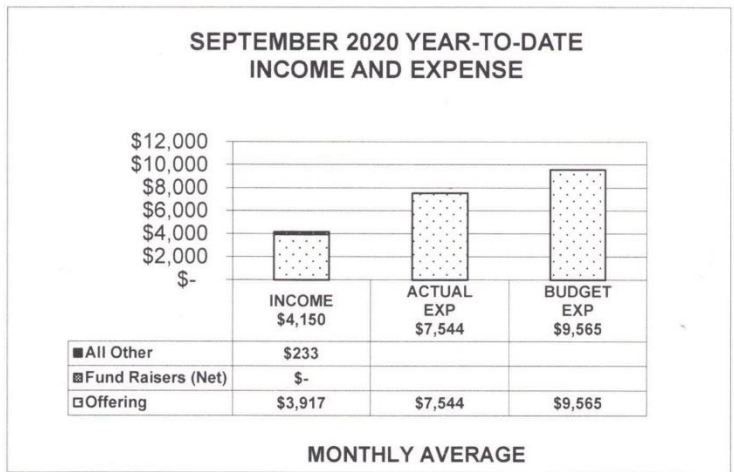
September 2020 – ‘Actual’ vs. ‘Required’

Income

Income	Income	Actual	Difference
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,565.00	\$ 3,214.45	\$ (6,350.55)

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2020
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 Parking Lot
Project
\$ 32,613.52 Funds Received to Offset Expenses



**CALENDAR YEAR 2020 INFORMATION
NORMAL OPERATIONS
(DOES NOT INCLUDE MAJOR REPAIRS/PURCHASES)**

**INCOME & EXPENSE ACTIVITY
SEPTEMBER 2020 YEAR-TO-DATE**

	Sep Y-T-D	Average Month
Income		
Offering	\$ 35,254	\$ 3,917
Fund Raisers	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 2,099	\$ 233
Total Income	\$ 37,353	\$ 4,150
Actual Exp	\$ 67,983	\$ 7,554
Budget Exp	\$ 86,089	\$ 9,565
Shortage *	\$ (30,630)	\$ (3,403)

*NOTE: Shortage - Total Income to 2020 ACTUAL Expense
Less Benevolence & Major Repairs/Purchases

A MEANINGFUL MONTH

Consumerism can prevent us from noticing needs, writes Walter Brueggemann (*The Prophetic Imagination*). A culture steeped in materialism and greed can “block out the cries of the denied ones ... so that no one discerns misery alive in the heart of God.”

In November, we celebrate Thanksgiving, Christ the King Sunday and the start of Advent. What does it mean that Christ is our King? How can we truly give God thanks and prepare for Jesus’ coming? It’s a good time to ponder what hurts God’s heart – and how we can help.

If someone is lonely, perhaps we can invite them to Thanksgiving dinner. If we sense inequality saddening God, we might advocate for fair policies. If God is in pain because some of his children have too little, we can share our resources. In so doing, we welcome Christ the King among us, and give him meaningful thanks.



Reprinted from
The Newsletter Newsletter

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Bible Quiz

After Jesus healed 10 men at one time, how many returned to thank him? What had been their ailment?

- A. five; blindness
- B. all 10; deafness
- C. one; possession by demons
- D. one; leprosy

Answer: D (See Luke 17:11-19.)

BRANDYWINE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

(updated as of September 10, 2020)

In the light of concerns about increased food needs in response to COVID-19 and possible challenges of delivering items to the food bank – please consider a generous monetary donation. We will keep you posted with info. from the food pantry. You can make out a check to “Brandywine Food Pantry,” and mail it to Brandywine Food Pantry, c/o St. Peter’s United Church of Christ, 122 W. Franklin St., Tipton, PA, 19562.

Donated Items in “much” need right now: coffee, fruit juices, sugar, pancake syrup, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, Hamburger Helper, beef stew, Chicken-ala-King, canned meat (such as tuna, chicken breast or Spam), Manwich or sloppy joe mix, Chef Boyardee style canned items (such as beefaroni, lasagna, etc.), instant potatoes, pasta or rice sides, snacks of all kinds (cookies, chips, pretzels, pudding, etc.), shampoo, bar soap, body wash, and laundry detergent.

We do not currently need: corn, green beans, mixed vegetables, or tomato soup.

The pantry is always in need of the following items:

Canned fruits: sliced peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, fruit cup, applesauce, etc.

Canned vegetables: creamed corn, sweet peas, carrots, beets, sliced potatoes, yams

Canned goods: diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, chili

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

Drinks: hot or cold tea, water

Extra: peanut butter, marshmallow fluff, jelly

Dry goods: stuffing mix, Rice-a-Roni, ramen noodles, rice

Baking items: cake or brownie mix, frosting

Breakfast food: oatmeal, pop tarts, cereal bars

Paper products: tissues, toilet paper, paper towels

Personal care items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, 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.

LET YOUR THANKFULNESS SHOW

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances! -- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Sages, mystics and prophets through the ages have taught us that cultivating an attitude of thankfulness will not only help us grow as disciples, but thankfulness will also deepen our connection neighbors and give us happier, more fulfilling lives. And how do you cultivate thankfulness? First and always, through prayer. Consider how many of the Psalms offer thanks, or how often the Apostle Paul gives thanks for the people and blessings of his ministry. Pray always – and always with thanksgiving. Keep a “blessings list” and pray through it daily.

Giving thanks to God can nourish thankfulness in your own heart, and you can also help encourage thankfulness in your community by developing a habit of thanking others – verbally, by text or email, or with cards and notes.

Since our national holiday of Thanksgiving takes place in November, this month offers the perfect opportunity to start.

Throughout November, look for every opportunity to thank someone for any reason, big or small. It could be a stranger who holds a door open for you, a clerk who rings up your sale, or a neighbor who does you a favor. Keep track of the number of times you can say “thank you.” You may be surprised. For fun, compete with others to see who can say “thank you” the most times in November.

In the process of saying “thank you” you will not only develop a habit that will deepen your soul, you will also change your relationship with neighbors, your community and our world. And that will be a real cause for thanksgiving.

—Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2020, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com

SIMPLE WAYS TO PRACTICE GRATITUDE

Ciara Conlon has 40 suggestions. Here are 5:

1. Keep a Gratitude Journal and add to it everyday.
2. Tell someone you love them and how much you appreciate them.
3. Notice the beauty in nature each day.
4. Nurture the friendships you have, good friends don't come along every day.
5. Smile more often.



- 1 Diana Moyer
- 6 Justin Moyer
- 10 Irene Noll
- 11 Cheryl Wiltrout
- 12 Lisa Landis
- 19 Linwood Merkel
- 23 Gary Lambert
- 24 Carolyn Dise
- 25 Horace Rothermel
- 25 Emily Jones
- 27 Jeff Wengert
- 28 Baylee Cleaver



- 9 Daniel and Kathy Bailey (18 years)
- 25 Ty and Cindy Rissmiller (31 years)
- 28 Horace and Joyce Rothermel (61 years)

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, Dallas Bennecoff, Sara Jane Beshore, George DeLong, Erma Guinther, Virginia Guinther, Lucille Jones, Patricia Keck, Penny Keller, Sheila Long, Forrest Merkel, Roy Merkel, Edna Miller, Grace Miller, Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Horace and Joyce Rothermel, Gabriele Sanders, Dale Schwoyer, Gary and Vikie Seyfert.

Friends of the congregation: Carrie Bausch, Adam Bell, Darlene Bogert, Bob Bright, Thelma Bright, Joshua Buck, Anne Cunningham, Mark Derr, Lee Dice, Randy Dreibelbis, Jennifer Engle, Nicole F., Eric Fox, Harry Geidner, Jason Grof, Mamie Guinther, Denise Haage, Shirley Hahn, Nancy Harnish, Johnson-Agiri Family, Angie Kistler, Kelly Kline, The Koontz Family, Edna Kramer, Cayden Kresge, Mary Kring, Michelle Kurtz, Catherine Lenio, Ella Loose, Joe M., Doris Meadway, Rodney Miller, Johnathan Naugle, Ruth Ramsey, Family and Friends of Ray Rhoads, Phil Sheetz, Patricia Sigfried, Robert Taylor, Leticia Weaver, Linda Wegman, 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; our citizens as they prepare to vote; 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, Amanda Herman, David Jenkins, Sue Kearney, Anh La, Michelle Meck, Nancy Meck, Joanne Pauley, Arlene Reider, Leilani Rodriguez, Andrew S., Joshua S., Roger Schollenberger, Donna Schwoyer, The Spatz Family, and Leah Wiest.



A taste of history

Add a yummy, authentic touch to your Thanksgiving meal with this recipe.



What you need:

- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- pint jar with lid
- strainer
- bowl
- container
- salt



What you do:

1. Pour cream into the jar and close the lid tightly.
2. Shake vigorously about 8 minutes, until a solid lump of butter forms. (Take turns with a friend!)
3. Strain the contents, catching the buttermilk in a bowl to save for another recipe.
4. Put the butter in a container. Add salt to taste.
5. After chilling the butter, enjoy on fresh bread.



Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	ate	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	glad	happiness	lesson	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrate	good	praising	Christian	God	river

Cross out all words in column E with double letters.

Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.

Cross out all words in column B that end in d.

Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.

Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.

Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.

Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

_____ ,
 _____ . ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV

NOVEMBER GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY OF NEW JERUSALEM

Due to the current pandemic, it has been a long time since we gathered for worship in our sanctuary. While many of us have missed being in the space that is very sacred to us and have longed to be among our brothers and sisters, we have refrained for the sake of protecting the health of our brothers and sisters. We are also thankful that some of us have had the options to worship together via Zoom and/or to celebrate communion by gathering on the parking lot.

We grieve that not everyone will be able to or will feel safe to gather in the sanctuary. For those who *do* wish to enter, we have set the following guidelines:

- 1) If, within the past 14 days, you have tested positive or been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or are experiencing any symptoms or are feeling ill in any way, stay home.
- 2) Masks are to be worn by everyone entering the building and to remain on until they depart. Hand sanitizer will be available in multiple locations. Worshippers are asked to bring their own masks. However, a few will be available if someone does not have one. If you are not able to wear a mask due to health concerns, we ask that for your sake and the sake of others you do not come to worship in the sanctuary.
- 3) At all times, a distance of at least 6 feet from people other than family members is to be observed.
- 4) Everyone is to enter and exit using the door at the top of the ramp. This way no one will need the elevator and we can keep that area of the building sanitized.
- 5) Bulletins for each person to pick up and an offering basket will be located on the shelves in the entrance way. We also plan to mail out bulletins ahead of time, so, if you can remember, please bring the one you have been mailed. That way we will not need to print as many.
- 6) Seats that respect social distancing have been designated. Some are designated so that family members may sit together. Please only sit in the designated seats.
- 7) When entering the building, those who enter first are to proceed to the front seats. Others who enter will fill in seats immediately behind those who are seated. While these may not be the seats you normally sit in, we ask you to follow this guideline for the sake of everyone present.
- 8) When the service is over, those who are seated in the back are to exit first and go directly to the parking lot.
- 9) If you wish to visit with others in the parking lot, please continue to wear your mask and observe the appropriate distance from one another.
- 10) Only one person at a time is to use the bathroom, unless a family member is needed to give assistance to someone. When unoccupied, the door to the bathroom is to remain open. Please close the door when you enter and leave it open when you exit.

The services that are being planned will be shorter than normal, probably lasting about 30 minutes. This has been recommended in order to reduce exposure time.

Members of Worship and Music Committee, Congregation Council and others have been working hard to enable those who desire to re-enter the sacred space of our sanctuary. They are also aware that plans will need to be adapted to changing conditions. We pray that the current arrangements will allow those who choose to attend an opportunity for meaningful worship of the God who never forsakes us and refuses to be confined.

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Blessed to be a Blessing



The Church Board (council/consistory) of Zion's Union Church Maxatawny recently challenged its members to raise \$5,000 to help three local service agencies in these difficult times. The congregation has been blessed to be financially stable during the pandemic and the Board pledged to match any donations received from various church accounts.

Despite having only virtual on-line worship, thanks to the generous stewardship of its members over a three-month period the goal was exceeded and \$5,755 was received, which the Board matched for a total of \$11,510. The Salvation Army received \$4,642; Helping Harvest of Berks County received \$4,146; and Second Harvest of Lehigh County received \$2,722.

Zion's Union Church was organized in 1826. In 1987, under the guidance of UCC pastor Willis Heckler, Zion's helped forge a new concept known as "shared ministry," in which Lutheran and UCC worship services were merged and one pastor served both congregations. Things went so well that in 2013, under the leadership of Lutheran pastors Jimmy Lee Werley and Herb Michel, the congregation took the further step of legally merging both congregations to become one of the very first "federated" congregations.

As a federated congregation, members take pride in being both Lutheran and UCC at one and the same time as the congregation is affiliated with both the ELCA and the United Church of Christ and supports both national churches 50/50 with their benevolence dollars. Zion's is currently served by Lutheran pastor Jeffrey Butz.

Thank You for Your Support!

Congregations of the Northeastern PA Synod have been faithful and generous in their mission support offerings throughout the months of COVID-19 restrictions. This strong support of synod-wide and church-wide ministries has sustained and invigorated mission endeavors in partnership with congregations across the ELCA.

Such a bold response in challenging times gives us confidence that the Triune God into whom we are baptized hears our relentless petition: Give us this day our daily bread.

Thanks be to God! And, thank you. Thank you for your regular mission support offerings. Thank you for your witness to new life in the Risen Jesus to neighbors near and far.

Bishop Samuel Zeiser



Learning Ministries Day 2021 Save the Date - January 23



On Saturday, January 23 Learning Ministries Day will be held via Zoom for the first time ever. We will offer three one-hour workshop sessions with over 15 workshop options total. Our keynote speaker will be Barbara Rossing, professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, where she has taught since 1994. She will be speaking on "Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today."

A \$25 fee will be charged for each participant which will include the keynote, three workshops of their choice, and a goodie bag mailed directly to their home. Satellite churches will be established for people without computer access to participate in a safe and socially distanced manner. Workshop descriptions will be available in November and registration will be open from December 1, 2020 to January 15, 2021 (Check the synod website at nepasynod.org).

Keep an eye out for additional learning opportunities provided by the Faith Formation Ministry Team starting in March 2021. Faith Formation Saturdays will be initiated as a monthly opportunity for any and all to gather and learn from the comfort of your own home.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.

NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>All Saints Sunday 10:00am-Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00am-Communion on the Parking Lot DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:00am-Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>3</p> <p>ELECTION DAY</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00pm-Congregation Conversations</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am-Coloring Group</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>18th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship on Zoom</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:00am-Bible Study on Zoom 7:00pm-Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:30pm-Worship & Music Committee Mtg. on Zoom</p>	<p>11</p> <p> VETERANS DAY</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>19th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am-Worship in the Sanctuary NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00am-Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Christ the King Sunday 10:00am-Worship on Zoom Annual Meeting after Worship Service on Zoom</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00am-Bible Study on Zoom</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00pm-Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship at 2 locations: Christ Mertz, Dryville St. Paul's Mertztown</p>	<p>26</p> <p> THANKSGIVING DAY</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>1st Sunday of Advent 10:00am-Worship on Zoom</p>	<p>30</p>					