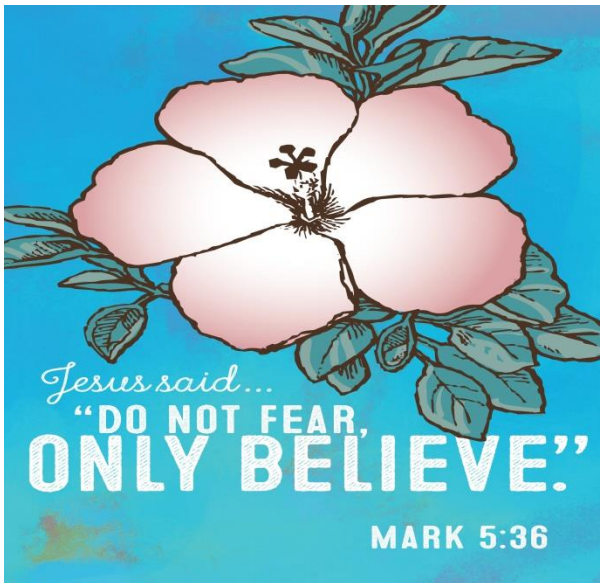


PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



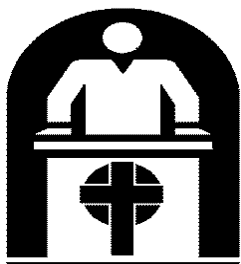
SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

JUNE 2023



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
8227 Hamilton Boulevard
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Telephone: 610-398-7000

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS is published by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Dear Members and Friends,

On May 28th we celebrated the Day of Pentecost. In the month of June through much of November we will be observing the long season of Pentecost. Pentecost is often considered the birthday of the Church. As with most other birthdays, the Church receives presents on this day – presents from God to his children. The first

present the Church receives at Pentecost is the Holy Spirit – the third person of the Trinity and a constant Presence with us in this often lonely and fearful place. But the Bible also talks about the “gifts of the Spirit” that arrive along with the Holy Spirit on this day.

These may not be gifts that we can see or touch. But they are gifts that we can certainly use and gifts that surely will last. We can find a list of these “gifts of the Spirit” in Isaiah 11:2-3. The following is a brief description of those gifts:

Wisdom – The Spirit’s gift of wisdom is a gift that puts us in tune with the will of God and helps us to make decisions that are pleasing to God and in the best interests of our spiritual wellbeing.

Understanding – The Bible says the disciples “did not yet understand” that Jesus would suffer and die, and then rise again on the third day for the redemption of all. But on Pentecost, the disciples were given a newfound grasp of what the mission of Christ was all about. Through the Spirit’s gift of understanding we, too, now have a solid grip on what the Good News is.

Counsel – The Holy Spirit gives us words of guidance and advice to share with those who are hurting or in need of the love of God.

Might – The Holy Spirit provides us with the power to stand up against the attacks of evil in the world. With the Holy Spirit’s strength within us, we can withstand any force that would seek to draw us away from Christ.

Knowledge – With the gift of knowledge, we are able to express to others the truth of God’s grace and favor.

Fear of the Lord – Through the Holy Spirit, we are filled with reverence and awe as we approach our God in prayer and worship.

Joy – We experience gladness in God, a gladness both of the Spirit and grounded in hope. This is a joy that brings us peace.

Let us discern these gifts within us and use them to serve our Lord in the coming days.

Pastor Miller

PLARN-MAKING SESSION – BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

We scheduled another Plarn-making session for **Wednesday, May 31, at 10:00AM** in Fellowship Hall. The Plarn is made out of plastic bags, which are cut into loops and knotted together to make one long strip of plastic material. The plastic material is then used for crocheting sleeping mats – to be donated to the homeless. Even if you can't crochet, you can help by making the Plarn for us to crochet. We can train you on folding and cutting bags – no previous experience necessary - and it is a great way to get rid of plastic bags! Hope to see you on May 31 – the more, the merrier! Check out our picture page in this newsletter.

We'd like to thank all those who have helped on this project thus far - Kathy Conrad, Evelyn Guzman, Peggy Kern, Judy Noll, Daisy Pearson, Evelyn Randall, Laura Stoneback, Bruce & Sandi Wagaman, and Steph Wagaman.

Judy Noll
Steph Wagaman

PRAYER SHAWL NEWS – TWIDDLE SLEEVE PROJECT



Prayer Shawl Ministry

We had a prayer shawl blessing on April 23 during worship - 20 adult shawls and 12 baby blankets were blessed. If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself, or know someone who could use a prayer shawl, or have a new baby in your circle of friends and family –please see Peggy Kern or

Steph Wagaman to get a shawl.

For those of you who are working on Twiddle Sleeves - we are planning to have a Twiddle Sleeve decorating session at the beginning of November, so plan to wrap up your twiddle sleeves by the end of October.

Many thanks to those who are making sleeves: Kathy Conrad, Patti Everett, Jackie Grove, Peggy Kern, Daisy Pearson, Helen Post, Sandi Wagaman, Steph Wagaman, and Irene Wenz.

Peggy Kern
Steph Wagaman

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL YARD SALE

Come and get rid of your junk! "One man's junk is another man's treasure!" On Saturday, June 10th St. Paul's will hold their Annual Yard Sale from 8:00am-1:00pm on the parking lot of the church. The cost is \$10.00 per space (one space includes 2 parking spaces) and includes a table. Please sign the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex if you're interested. We need at least 10 spaces occupied. Hurry and reserve your space!

MISSION INTERPRETER TALK APRIL 30, 2023 RON MORDOSKY OUR BENEVOLENCE AT WORK

Highlights from Ron Mordosky's presentation on April 30, who has been a Mission Interpreter for over 10 years and loves to tell stories about ministries that our benevolence supports.

Frieden's Lutheran started a small garden in 2020 which has grown since its inception. They overcame watering challenges, applied for funds to install a drip irrigation system using hoses and automatic timers.

Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital had a need for technology to help children to walk. Through a grant from our Synod they were able to be the first rehab hospital to purchase 3 sizes of a walking assist device to help children walk who were diagnosed with cerebral palsy, strokes, spinal cord injury and many other illnesses which affect mobility.

Churches in the Kutztown area received a grant from the Synod's Witness & Service team a few years ago which allows them to harvest thousands of pounds of potatoes, corn, carrots and other vegetables for Food Pantries in Berks, Lehigh, & Schuylkill Counties.

These are a few of the local programs that our benevolence is funding. Ron also talked about worldwide benevolence programs.

If you would like the entire list, please see Sharon Bortz.

USHERS/WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

We are in need of people to help with the 10:30 a.m. worship service. For the service, worship is the same as before Covid 19 – i.e. hymns are sung, offering is collected in the pew, and communion is taken at the altar. You will be handing out the bulletin, helping to collect offering, and directing the congregation to the altar and handing them a communion cup. If you would be willing and interested in helping, please contact Steph Wagaman at 610-395-0355 or stepbillwagaman@rcn.com or call the church office at 610-398-7000.

SILK FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH

Because there are many Sundays when no one sponsors the flowers in the flower stands in church (and because it is an expense of \$44.00 for two flower arrangements) we have decided to use an arrangement of silk flowers to adorn our church when there are no sponsors. There will be at least two silk flower arrangements available (possibly more to come at a later date) to put in the flower stands.

When there are two flower arrangements that are sponsored, the flowers will appear as usual in the flower stands. When there is only one flower arrangement sponsored, it will be placed on the organ or piano and the two silk arrangements will be placed in the flower stands. When there are no flowers sponsored, the two silk flower arrangements will be placed in the flower stands.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

We are in need of bulletin sponsorships for 2023. Bulletin sponsorships will be for both services. The price is \$20.00. Call the church office to pick a date to sponsor or check the bulletin board for available dates. Fill out the **white** slip with your name, date you are sponsoring and the wording and place it in the folder under the signup sheet.

Altar Flower Sponsorships are: one vase is \$22.00 or both vases are \$44.00. If you are sponsoring both vases, **PLEASE** sign your name to **BOTH LINES**. Fill out the **blue** slip with your name, date you are sponsoring and the wording and place it in the folder under the signup sheet. Call the church office to pick a date to sponsor or check the bulletin board for available dates.

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Our monthly meeting was on May 10th where our business discussion was about -

- *The Convention*, scheduled for June 24 is being hosted at St. Paul's, Breinigsville.
 - Our group discussed and signed up to bring food for the event, setting up and cleaning up after the event.
 - We will complete the planning for the convention during our June meeting.

Our study this month was a devotional *Serving with Zeal: What Intergenerational Hospitality and Creativity Have in Common* by Sarah Carson. Intergenerational hospitality in particular is important because we have so much to give to and receive from each other with each passing generation. Sarah has come to believe that creativity has a lot in common with the skills needed to live in community with people who are different from us --- whether that means people who are older or younger than us, or people of different races or backgrounds.

Mark your calendar and please join us on June 14th at 9:30 a.m. for another time of fellowship, camaraderie and study from the Gather magazine.

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!!!!

IRONPIGS MONEY DUE – JUNE 2ND



All tickets for the IronPigs game for June 18, 2023 have been sold. Money is due by June 2nd and the price is \$37.00 per person. Gates open at 12:00 p.m. Game time is 1:35 p.m. Food will be available from 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Cost includes the ticket to the game, the buffet, soda and water. The opposing team will be the Toledo Mud Hens.

BASKET SOCIAL NEWS



We have been very busy working on baskets for the Basket Social scheduled on September 23. As of now, we have **66** baskets in house, along with **12** special kids' baskets! (See pic.) We are doing something new this year to make the event fun for kids! If you bring your kids to the Basket Social and have purchased any tickets, the kids

(aged 10 and under) will receive free tickets for bidding on these baskets. The baskets are filled with fun games, toys, and craft activities.

We will start selling tickets on **June 4**. Tickets for Baskets and Gift Cards are \$5 per card (each card contains 26 tickets). If purchased in advance, the price is \$20 for 5 cards. If purchased at the door, the price is \$25 for 5 cards. See Anita or anyone on the Basket Social Committee for tickets.

If you are interested in putting together a basket, there are many ideas for basket themes on the table in the Narthex. You can pick up a basket tag for making a themed basket, don't forget to put your name on the sign-up sheet, and bring the completed basket to church by the due date. We can do the basket wrapping for you. There are also gift card tags on the table. We are accepting donation of items - new or nearly new items are preferred.

We are especially in need of baskets themselves. So if you have a stash of empty baskets that you can spare, please bring them to church - we will put them to good use.

For updates on the Social, visit our [Basket Social Web page](#). And thanks to all who have already signed up to make a basket or donate a gift card!

Basket Social Committee Members:

Carol Derr-Breinig
Rosie Gallagher
Pastor Miller
Steph Wagaman

Melanie Dimovitz
Peggy Kern
Peggy Saylor

Anita Eisenhard
Amanda Mesko
Becky Theodore

PARISH NURSING NOTES

“Loneliness Epidemic”

June 2023

Peggy Saylor, RN

On a recent PBS NewsHour video, the United States Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, reported that loneliness is a new epidemic that can have profound effects on one's health. A study revealed that poor social relationships, isolation, and loneliness can increase the risk of heart disease by 29% and the risk of stroke by 32% as well as increasing the risk of dementia. Social isolation can increase the risk of premature death by 30% which is an alarming statistic.

One in two adults report experiencing measurable levels of loneliness with young people reporting even higher amounts. This results in a more than “bad feeling” and increases one's risk of health issues on par with smoking and even higher than obesity.

This public health crisis was accelerated by the COVID pandemic which Dr. Murthy described as “pouring fuel on a fire that was already burning.” The study reported that in 2003, the average daily amount of time spent engaging with friends was 60 minutes but in 2020 that amount was decreased to an average of only 20 minutes per day. Factors contributing to this were a decrease in community and recreational leagues (such as faith communities), technology leading us away from personal connections and an increase in life situations changes such as jobs and living locations. While working at home has some positive aspects, isolation can be detrimental.

Experts stress that quality of time and relationships matter more than quantity. While having 900 friends on Facebook sounds impressive, only having 20 close contacts may be preferable.

Suggestion on combating loneliness include:

1. Spending at least 15 minutes a day with people we genuinely care about.
2. Being fully engaged in the moment without being distracted by technology.

(continued on next page)

Social media would benefit by having adequate safety standards to make it safe for our children with less emphasis on “normal body images” that can lead to low self-esteem. Older individuals can contact agencies such as AARP, Area Agency on Aging and Eldercare Locator but housing and transportation issues often complicate these connections. As a faith community, we should ask ourselves if there is anything else that we can do to help combat this epidemic. It is the “right thing” to do and what God would want us to do.

NEW MEMBERS



Bill & Cheryl Wilburn became members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church on May 14th. The following is a bio sketch to get to know Bill & Cheryl a little better:

Originally from the Lehigh Valley, the Wilburns recently returned to the area after 25 years in Bucks County. Cheryl is a retired Dental Hygienist; Bill is an engineer and a retired Navy Chief. They have 2 adult children, Kelly and Paul, who both live in the Philadelphia suburbs and a Fox Hound named Ridley. They enjoy Camping in their RV, gardening and spending time with family.

EMMAUS CHORALE PRESENTS

WITH A SONG IN MY HEART

Featuring Broadway tunes by
Gershwin, Rodgers & Hammerstein,
Andrew Lloyd Webber, and more.

Sunday, June 11 at 3:00 P.M.
Faith Presbyterian Church
3002 N. Second Street
Emmaus, PA

Reception to Follow
Free Will Offering

Please Join Us!

THANK YOU

To Those at St. Paul's Who have Been so Kind.

You make the World Brighter. Your kindness has a way of making hearts a little happier and problems seem a lot smaller. Thank You for making a difference in my world.

Thank you so much for your prayers & concerns. We truly appreciate them. Frank has lived a good life and now we take a day at a time.

We thank you for those who have sent cards & Thank You for adding Frank to the prayer list.
Frank & Judy Szukics

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the prayer shawl you sent home for me. This has been an extremely rough time for me as I only leave home to go for tests, to the hospital, or to doctors. I am relieved to know my kidney is being removed June 26th. Hopefully I will then be on the road to recovery.

Thanks again for your thoughtfulness and prayers.

Nancy Miller

Prayer Shawl Gals,

Thank you for the prayer shawl. He's wrapped in it. It's nice and warm, and he is always cold.

Thank you so very much for your thoughtfulness.

Frank and Judy Szukics

SUMMER SOLACE

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of



nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles.

—Anne Frank, *Diary of a Young Girl*

PRAYER CHAIN COMMITTEE

A note to let you know that if anyone is in need of additional prayers for someone in your family or someone you know, please call Judy Walker at #610-351-6040 or cell #610-573-7117. She will start the prayer chain by calling the people who serve on that committee. They in turn will keep extra prayers going for that person. All we need is a name of someone in need of prayer; a reason does not have to be given as to why you want the extra prayers.



If you would like to become a member of this committee, just let me know. I am contacting the Prayer Chain Committee electronically using text messages and email from my cell phone. If you do not have a cell phone or computer, we can still contact you by phone. So if you want to be of service to those who need extra prayers, just contact me using the numbers above or see me at Church. This only takes a brief amount of time and there are no meetings to attend! We all need extra prayers and they do not take a lot of time but are of great comfort.

HOSPITALIZED?

Parish Code for hospitalized parishioners is 321. Please give this code when you are admitted to the hospital so the pastor can be made aware that you are a patient and can administer the pastoral care you require while you are hospitalized.

Please take note, that if you are admitted on a Thursday night, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, the pastor will not be aware that you are hospitalized until Monday mid-morning, since the church does not have office hours on Friday, and the hospital pastoral care office is not available on Saturday or Sunday.

This means, if you would like the Pastor to know you are hospitalized on the weekend, please call the church office or the Pastor.



We have opened the church, and we will still be sending cards to the members of the congregation. If you know of someone who is ill or hospitalized, please let the office know. We will send a card signed from the congregation.



1 Matthew Bruchak	16 Christine Nemeh
3 Sharon Bortz	19 Baileigh Mount
5 Sandy Huegel	19 Keith Theodore
6 Paul Trainor	21 Sydney Mesko
8 Heather Caricari	24 Tracy Grammes
8 Roger Conrad	25 Jerry Sedlak
9 Vanessa Eiswerth	27 Shirley Binkley
9 Sandi Wagaman	29 Becky Theodore
12 Cathy Waltemyer	30 Mari Eiswerth
14 Sandy Bennighoff	



9 Cindy & Jim Krasnansky
11 Carey & Nancy Miller
13 Paul & Denise Trainor
15 Jeff & Cathy Waltemyer
15 Dick & Nancy Steltz
16 Steph & Bill Wagaman
17 Ed & Daisy Pearson
18 Frank & Sandy Bennighoff
19 Roger & Kathy Conrad
22 Bruce & Sandi Wagaman
26 Jeffrey & Melody Pavlacka
30 Bob & Kim Bruchak



COME GLORIFY GOD TOGETHER

Don't use summer as an excuse to skip church! By gathering in corporate worship, we obey God's command, become equipped for Christian living, and minister to our fellow pilgrims. Consider these tips for engaging in corporate worship.

First, show up — in person if you can. Examine your heart and your motivation for attending church. Lift up your eyes from earthly matters to focus on God.

Come prepared. Do you need to confess anything or remove any hindrance? As you worship, consider how each part of the service displays the gospel: greeting, singing, confessing, reading Scripture, hearing Bible-based teaching, praying, giving and communing.

Be careful not to compartmentalize corporate worship as separate from the rest of life. Instead, consider how you'll carry the experience into the coming week. Come ready to receive; then let that overflow fuel you for the days ahead. Come prepared to participate, knowing that worshipping together is a rehearsal for heaven. But most importantly? Just come.

—Monica L. Wilkinson

DIVINE DANCE

Using the fancy word *perichoresis* (from Greek for “around” and “contain”) may win you admiring — or strange! — looks. But since the 7th century, people have used it as a beautiful image of the Persons of the Holy Trinity containing and permeating one another. A more familiar word, *choreography*, has led to recent understandings of perichoresis as the divine and eternal dance of love.

Picture three dancers' synchronized yet independent movements. Weaving gracefully in and out, each seems to know what the others will do next. They may touch lightly but don't constrain or impede one another. Though distinct individuals, they move so fluidly together that they are, in a sense, one entity.

Even more profound: Jesus invites us into the dance! “If you love me,” he says, “you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth. ... I will come to you. ... I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you” (John 14:15-20, ESV). As the actions of Jesus, the Father and the Spirit interweave in Scripture and in the world, may our lives too be drawn into the loving dance.

SEASONAL HUMOR

For summer weddings:

- The wedding was so beautiful, even the cake was in tiers.
- Did you hear about the two spiders who got engaged? They met on the web.
- Two cell phones got married. The reception was terrific!
- Why did the King of Hearts and the Queen of Hearts get married? They were perfectly suited.

For baseball season:

- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger and bigger. Then it hit me.
- What did the baseball glove say to the ball? “Catch ya later!”
- Why are frogs good baseball players? Because they’re good at catching flies.
- Why did Cinderella get kicked off the baseball team? She ran away from the ball.

And for Father’s Day, some dad jokes:

- My dream job is to clean mirrors because I can really see myself doing that.
- We’re renovating the house. The first floor is going great, but the second floor is another story.

FINDING FREEDOM

Juneteenth, America’s newest federal holiday, marks the official end of slavery in the nation. President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Applying only to the states in the Confederacy, it declared “that all persons held as slaves are, and henceforward shall be free.” But news of freedom didn’t reach Galveston, Texas, until June 19, 1865, when 2,000 Union troops arrived to enforce the decree. The U.S. Constitution’s 13th Amendment, which bans slavery, was ratified a few months later.

Just as freedom and justice came in fits and starts to the Israelites, so it comes to our own country and around the world, where the pursuit for justice continues.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers.
Use the references for help, if needed.



1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (*2 Samuel 5:4*)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (*Genesis 22:1-2*)
6. He had 12 sons (*Genesis 35:22b*)
7. Samuel's father (*1 Samuel 1:19-20*)
9. His son was Obed (*Ruth 4:21*)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (*Ruth 4:17*)

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (*Genesis 6:10*)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (*Genesis 27:30*)
5. The Father of our Lord (*Ephesians 1:3*)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (*1 Samuel 2:12*)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (*2 Samuel 9:6*)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (*Genesis 4:25*)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (*Matthew 1:20-21*)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (*2 Samuel 9:6*)

Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Elkanah, 8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse; ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli,

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS
JUNE 11, 2023**

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR
ARTICLES SUBMITTED TO
THE CHURCH OFFICE
BY THIS DATE.**



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE





EMAIL: office@stpaulsbbville.org

Website: www.stpaulsbbville.org

STAFF

Pastor..... The Rev. Carey L. Miller
Organist/Choir Director Ms. Judy Noll
Handbell Director..... Mr. Richard Steltz
Parish Secretary Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky

June 2023 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																								
				1 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	2	3																																																								
4 THE HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	5 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee 7:00 p.m.-Basket Social Committee	6	7	8 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	9	10 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.-Yard Sale																																																								
11 2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	12 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	13	14 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council 	15 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	16	17																																																								
18 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 1:35 p.m.-IronPigs Game(Gates Open at Noon) 	19 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 	20 6:30 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting	21 	22 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	23	24 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. NEPA W-ELCA Convention																																																								
25 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	26 NO BIBLE STUDY	27	28	29 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	30	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">July 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	July 2023							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

June 2023

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000
or the Council Person of the Month - Zack Dimovitz 484-560-4858

Sunday, June 4, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Rosie Gallagher, Madeline MacMechan

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter

Communion Asst: Peggy Saylor

Communion Bread: Madeline MacMechan

Greeters: Janine & Ken Ritter

Lay Asst: Sharon Bortz

Reader: Sandi Wagaman

Sunday, June 18, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Anita Eisenhard, Judy Walker

Altar Guild: Amy Williams

Communion Asst: Bob Bruchak

Communion Bread: Anita Eisenhard

Greeter: Lacey Edwards

Lay Asst: Daisy Pearson

Reader: Rosemary Lehman

Sunday, June 11, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Andrew Bruchak, Bob Bruchak

Altar Guild: Esther Seibert

Communion Asst: Cal Fetherolf

Communion Bread: Carol Derr-Breinig

Greeter: Mary Schneider

Lay Asst: Dick Steltz

Reader: Bob Nickisher

Sunday, June 25, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Bruce Wagaman, Sandi Wagaman

Altar Guild: Steph Wagaman

Communion Asst: Sharon Bortz

Communion Bread: Bruce & Sandi Wagaman

Greeter: Dick Hartley

Lay Asst: Rosemary Lehman

Reader: Peggy Kern



Shawls, Lap Robes, and Baby Blankets for Blessing – 4/23/2023

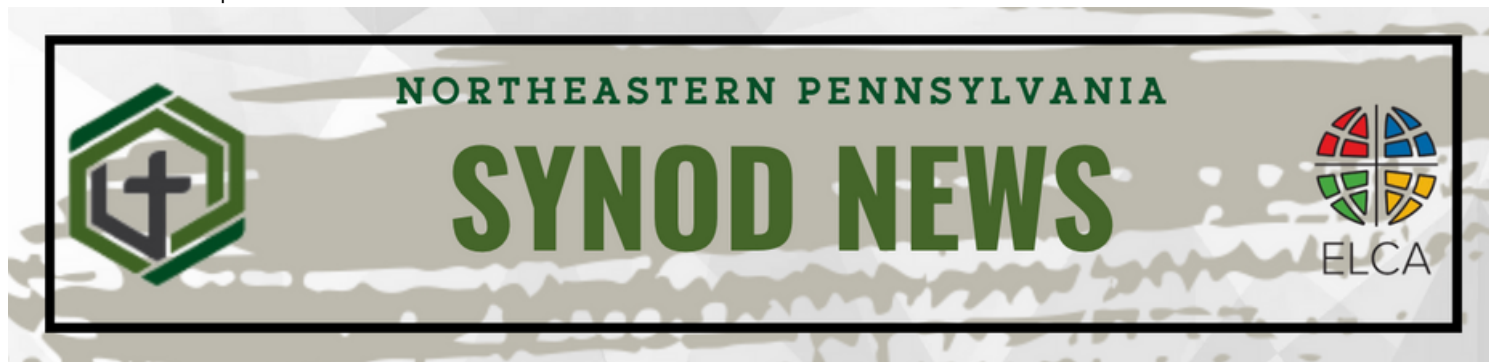


Sleeping Mat
(Under Construction)



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WE MATTER TO THE WHOLE CHURCH: A STORY FROM OUR SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD

Being a member of a congregation council is significant in the life of a disciple. Serving as a leader in a congregation is rewarding, terrifying, awe-inspiring and messy. You are among friends, family and your community of believers, and are chosen to lead in your congregation. It's just a few times a month, but as Barbara Nugent, a synod vice president, shares, "Then life happens, and you find out the reporting required. Situations occur; personalities clash; decisions need to be made. Who do you go to for direction?"

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod provided that direction in February when it offered training to 70 congregational lay leaders that strengthened each person's skills and faith. From evangelism to the ELCA constitution and bylaws, they gathered to meet the passions and needs, offering workshops with special breakouts for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries and treasurers that covered such topics as worship and music, communications, advocacy, stewardship and social justice/anti-racism. The day started with Bishop Kurt Kusserow encouraging these valued leaders to keep the focus on our purpose:

“Your leadership in the life of your congregation ought always to bear in mind that your congregation finds its fulfillment in the universal church, and that the universal church exists in and through congregations such as yours. I think this means addressing local questions and concerns in the life of your congregation as if they matter to the whole church (because they do).”

Everyone was hungry to gather ideas, consider future steps but also have an opportunity to connect, be empowered, feel valued and cared for and remember the excitement of being church. Rev. Melissa Stoller, director for evangelical mission, said it this way: “The day was a very visible yet not necessarily quantifiable force that we are church together. Wandering but not alone. Feeling worry, power, uncertainty, and joy as one.” Central to this gathering was living into the mission of this synod “to serve, connect and equip congregations of the SWPA synod to tell the story of Jesus.” Everyone knew that the synod was there for the congregations with staff, volunteers and greater church support, not only this day but in the days to come, and synod staff are supported through the generous mission support of congregations allowing them to be there for our leaders. One leading Scripture for the day reminded each leader of their value: “Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word” (Acts 6:3-4). Hoping each of our synods are seeking ways that work for them to encourage and empower congregational leaders. Knowing that we are church together, church that supports each other across the whole church prayerfully, financially, emotionally and with a hope for renewal.



Our Synod has PRIDE



June is Pride Month which celebrates LGBTQIA+ folx and their many achievements.

Although injustices and prejudices still exist within our society, we have made great strides since the Stonewall Riots in 1969, attaining marriage equality. However, as previously mentioned, we still have a long way to go in the struggle for equal rights. By learning about LGBTQ Pride/History Month, congregational members are more likely to have an understanding and acceptance for all individuals, no matter what they look like, what gender they do or don't identify as, and who they love. Consider celebrating PRIDE in your congregation!

Congratulations!!!

Joshua Fink and
Ron Mordosky

On Sunday May 7th, at the Lehigh Mission District Annual Spring Assembly held at the Lutheran Center, Joshua Fink was elected for a second term as LMD Synod Council Representative. Ron Mordosky was elected LMD Voting Lay Male Delegate to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly.

There are two open positions available: an Alternate Voting Lay Male Delegate to the Churchwide Assembly and LMD Treasurer. If interested, please contact LMD Dean Nelson Quiñones.

Advent Christmas Ingathering

Mark your calendars: This year's date is Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus.

Thank you for all your support!



*July/August 2023 LMD NL
news will be due June 12, 2023.*

Please email any information to
lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com

An Epistle about a Hinge

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

On a small tray in my study, I have a small hinge that was made to be worn on a lapel.

The hinge ornament reminds me of my Clinical Pastoral Education at Phoebe Home Ministries in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Part of a seminarian's academic education is to go through a CPE program in the summer months.

As chaplains, the program allowed us to come to understand our strengths and gifts while working with patients at the senior living center.

Self-reflection of oneself, peers, patients, and surroundings formed a big part of the CPE program.

My colleague, Jean Huber, (today our Associate of the Bishop in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod) gave us a hinge pin to wear on our lapels. Huber passed them around saying that the hinge can serve as a symbol of our life's journey.

Instantly, the ornament stirred up in us an array of conversation. Our CPE self-reflection session would have to wait. All our energy focused on figuring out the meaning of this hinge that was given to us.

Chaplain's took sides with some saying, "WE ARE the hinge." One chaplain objected, "We CANNOT be the hinge." Explanations and more questions began to burst forth. "If we are the hinge, whom do we HOLD together?" "Do we hold each other together? Do we hold the patients together?" "Do we HOLD God together?"

A brief silence followed until the questions started up again. "But if God is the hinge, how does God STAY together?" Our reflection turned to one of the tenets of the church for an answer - "The center pin is God, The Father. The right and the left sides of the hinge symbolize The Son and The Holy Spirit."

For a moment, the trinitarian answer seems to have worked. That is until someone said, "Who are the SCREWS?" Another chaplain suggested, "Then who IS the DOOR?"

The life story of this now personified hinge kept evolving. From our circle of chairs Jean Huber shouted, "Guys, it's only a [expletive] pin!" A roar of laughter broke through the circle.

Huber was correct - the hinge was only a pin meant to be a sign of camaraderie in our CPE journey together.

From the CPE Program, we went on to live God's abundant life. Some went on to their respective pastoral ministries. Others towards a ministry in social work. Others furthered their academic education. Still others saw the chaplaincy as their place of ministry.

(continued on the next page ⇨)

2023 Worship on Wednesdays

7:00 PM at St. Timothy
Lutheran Church
(140 S. Ott Street, Allentown)
*at the pavilion or inside during
inclement weather*

WE WELCOME ALL OUR
FRIENDS OLD AND NEW
It is always a JOY to worship together !

June 14- SNA Band
(Saturday Night Alive Band),
From Steel City Mennonite
Church, Bethlehem

June 21- Glorious Day, from
St. Timothy Lutheran Church,
Allentown

June 28- St. Joseph the Worker
Catholic Church 11:00
Music Group, Orefield

July 5- Valley Collective

July 12- The Dulcimer Boys

July 19- River of Grace Gospel
Group

July 26- The Blend, The Barn
Faith Community, Allentown

August 2- Union Praise Band,
Union Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Schnecksville

August 9- The Cedar Routes,
Orchard Hills Church,
Breinigsville

August 16- Grace Notes
Gospel Big Band, Lehigh Valley

EACH WEEK A FREEWILL
OFFERING WILL BE GIVEN TO A
CHOSEN ORGANIZATION.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR GOOD
MUSIC, THE WORD &
FELLOWSHIP!!!

See flyer for details.



(continued from previous page) Now and then I glance at the hinge lapel pin in my desk tray. It is worn out and broken into two pieces. It serves as a reminder that as life happens there is abundant life.

Enjoy your summer,
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Lehigh Mission District Dean

Church Yard Sale

Saturday, June 3, 2023
8:00 am to 1:00 pm

(St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
4330 W. Rock Rd, Allentown, PA 18103)

St. Andrew's presents their 2nd
annual Spring Yard Sale.
Treasures Galore! Something for everyone!
Food and parking available.

See flyer for details.



Neighborhood/Community Food Drop Off to benefit the Open Door Food Pantry

(St. Mark Lutheran Church
201 E. Juniata St, Allentown, PA 18103)

Saturday, June 10th - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Volunteers will be there to help assist,
so people can just pull up and have the
food unloaded from their car to our pantry.
Suggested items are cereal, canned goods,
canned meats, juices, beans, snack bars,
etc. *(All non-perishable items - please no
expired food).*

Any questions, call (610)797-6440

See flyer for details.



OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave, Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-435-9155

Open: Mon 11-3 and Wed. 11-3

Email: LMDopsunshine@aol.com

Website: www.LMDopsunshine.com

Paula & Dick Skelly, Co-Trip Coordinators

*Operation Sunshine is a non-profit
fellowship opportunity within our Mission
District, run solely by volunteers.*

July 12 (Wed.): Fulton Theatre – GREASE

Aug. 4 (Fri.): Shawnee Playhouse –
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

September 17 to September 23, 2023
CHICAGO WITH 2 OVERNIGHTS IN CLEVELAND
*Please think about joining us for a fun trip to the
Windy City and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.*

Oct. 17 (Tues.): The Waterfront at
Silver Birches – GERMANFEST

AND MORE!!!

*See website or attached newsletter
for details.*

CROP Hunger Walk: Helping Neighbors Near and Far

Thank you for helping our 2022 Greater Allentown
CROP Hunger Walk raise **\$32345.87** to
help our neighbors in need locally and around the globe!

As a result of your faithful efforts, the Allentown Area
Ecumenical Food Bank and Lehigh Conference of
Churches Kitchen will each receive **over \$4000** for
their vital ministries; and our food insecure neighbors
who have survived floods, drought, war (including
our **Ukrainian** neighbors), earthquakes (including our
neighbors in **Turkey** and **Syria**), and other disasters
are receiving life-giving assistance.

See thank you notes attached.

Important CROP News:

NEW DATE for Greater Allentown CROP Hunger
Walk: **Sun., Oct. 22, 2023**, 1:30 pm,
with registration beginning at 1:00 pm.
(St. Timothy Lutheran Church,
140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104)

****Please REGISTER YOUR TEAM by June 1st****
(or ASAP) at

[https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023
/event/allentownpa](https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/allentownpa)

**CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun.,
Aug. 27, 2023**, 1:30-2:30 pm (to receive materials,
ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your
congregation) at St. Timothy Lutheran Church,
140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104