

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

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**JULY/AUGUST 2025**



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

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## The Pastor's Corner – SCARCITY OR ABUNDANCE

Oh No!! I have blueberries and Rice Krispies and wanted to have cereal for breakfast - - and I am out of milk! Now what? There is a scarcity of milk in my house. In the real world this is not a catastrophe. In my world – it is. This is my favorite breakfast and – now what?

It tends to be the simplest things that seem to throw us at the most unexpected times. I certainly can go to the store and buy milk to have this meal tomorrow. No, I did not stamp my feet or jump up and down at the “tragedy” in my kitchen. It can be easily resolved.

Why do we react like everything that does not work out the way we would like it to seem to be catastrophic? Why do so many think they must live in a perfect world? Is this world perfect? Has it ever been perfect? Maybe the answer to perfection is found in abundance.

FROM WEBSTER:   **Scarcity:** Insufficient or Rarity  
                          **Abundance:** More than enough and/or Overflowing

Milk has a fresh by date and will spoil. Unless I owned a cow, I can never have an abundance of milk. Now, I must rethink scarcity and perfection. They cannot weave together to make a perfect life. Maybe powdered milk, or buy fresh milk wherever I buy blueberries like one would buy a cake mix and icing.

What put me on the idea of scarcity here at St Paul's? I keep hearing the same thing. “We need more people”.

What would more people mean? An abundance of folks worshiping and perhaps overflowing the services. We would need more bulletins, communion elements, and reprint our membership list – if they joined the assembly.

“We need more people”. It sounds like it would make St Paul's a perfect world. Would it? In most churches 20% of the people do 80% of what takes place to keep the people side going- the volunteer side.

So, how do we get from “We need more people”, to Praise the Lord for those we have that faithfully serve our worship community. Yes, you are

tired, you are worn – Lord, lead us on. Lord, you must want us here or we would not still be here.

What do we have in abundance that we can tell others about? First impressions: We have lots of those.

- Are we welcoming in greeting those who come from outside or only to each other?
- Do we invite a visitor to worship with us in the nave or - - IN OUR PEW?
- Do we help a visitor with our style of communion - - FOLLOW ME?

Movie night – picked early enough to put in the newsletter. Would it be so awful if we ran out of pizza?

God put us at a great crossroads with a traffic light. People stopping can see us, people turning can see us, and those meandering to and from Trexlertown and maybe going to Hometown Diner know we are here. There is a day care across the street. They know we are here.

Brainstorm to make us visible to anyone driving by that something is always happening at St Paul's. We are sitting at an **Abundance** of sight for the community at large. God is calling us to use it. Your sign is a great start, but only a start. Now we need imagination and inspiration to go further.

Lord, lead us on...

*Pastor Ginny*

## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

This year, September 7 is the annual day of service and an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This year, Zion Lehigh is inviting St Paul's to join together in the service project.

From Zion Lehigh:

*We will be collecting gently used or new clothing to be delivered as appropriate to **Valley Manor Nursing Home** in Coopersburg and to the **Loads of Blessing** on Linden Street in Allentown. Please consider donating bagged clothing starting in July. Please sort your clothes and label your bags into the categories of Women, Men or Youth. Additionally, new items such as socks, underwear and diapers are greatly appreciated. Together we can make a great difference to those who are in need.*

Zion Lehigh would like to include St Paul's in a celebratory dinner after church on **Sunday, September 14.**

They (Zion) will provide meat, beverages and table service. We are asked to provide side dishes and desserts. Someone will be contacting us about potential numbers, and we'd appreciate your best guess. A signup sheet will be on the table in the narthex.

### AN OUTDOOR SERVICE AND PICNIC WITH ZION LEHIGH CHURCH

**AUGUST 17**

**LOCKRIDGE PARK, ALBURTIS      at 10 A.M.**

Again, they (Zion) will provide meat, beverages and table service. We are asked to provide side dishes and desserts. Someone will be contacting us about potential numbers, and they would appreciate our best guess. A signup sheet will be on the table in the narthex.

Are you trying to down size?

Do you have too much around your house?

- Mugs, glasses, utensils, pots and pans,
- Furniture, towels and linens (gently used),
- Cleaning supplies, carpets

A mission of Wesley United Methodist Church for over 15 years, their disaster relief warehouse is in Hellertown. Everything they do is dependent upon donations. They offer what is in their storage building to vetted families who have been forced from their homes through abuse, by fire or flood at no charge.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

7/11/25 Movie Night

7/20/25 Potluck

8/10/25 Potluck

8/15/25 Movie Night

8/17/25 Worship & Picnic with Zion Lehigh Church at 10:00 a.m. at  
Lockridge Park in Alburtis

Signup sheets are available for these vents on the table in the narthex.

**GUESS  
THE  
CONGREGANT**

We are starting something new in the newsletter. Each month we will have clues about one of the members.

Let's see if you know or can guess from the clues that person. There is no prize, sorry, and the answer will be in the next newsletter. Here is the first one: I played

semi-pro and collegiate baseball and was first chair trumpet in college. I play 3 instruments. I have 2 cats. I'm finishing up my 2nd master's degree. Who am I?

## WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH [WELCA]

Our monthly meeting was on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, and the group discussed:

- The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, June 14, 2025, at St. John's Nazareth; topic is *Renew Yourself with Gods Word*. There are only 2 ladies attending from St. Paul's.
- Daisy Pearson volunteered to have the July and August meetings at her home but a time change of starting at 10:00 a.m.

The June Bible study was to be Flourishing in relationships: *Relationships that form us* Session one by Brooke Peterson. We had a lively discussion and never got to the Bible study.

**Please take note:** The meetings for July and August will be at Daisy Pearson's home in New Tripoli and *start at 10 a.m.* Daisy graciously volunteered to have the meetings at her home.

### ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO THESE EVENTS

Join us on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pearson Homestead for our July meeting.

Join us on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pearson Homestead for our August meeting.

Report from 35<sup>th</sup> Annual NEPA WELCA Convention, St. John's Nazareth, June 14, 2025.

Deacon Kat Tigerman brought us greetings from Bishop deForest and spoke about the 3 outreach ministries that the NEPA Synod is working on in the Bethlehem, Wyomissing and Reading areas. Discussed was the 6-2-6-1 ministry community as well as other projects that they are working on.

Lorie Garcia, the Churchwide representative spoke to the gathering and said that our purpose statement was why she is involved with WELCA. She asked *what kind of woman are you?* and that you can share your individual stories on their webpage, if you are *bold*.

Joy Grace gave a report on Katie's Fund and gave background on the fund and things that they do with the funds.

New board members and triennial 2026 delegates were nominated, voted, and approved.

The date for the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual NEPA WELCA Convention has not yet been set.

## PENNY PARTY FUNDRAISER!!



**Did you know that over the past 4 years the Basket Social / Penny Party events have raised over \$23,000 for our church? We are happy to tell you that we are planning on having another Penny Party Event in the Fall of 2025, but we need YOU!** It takes many

people and many varied activities to make an event like this possible. Some of the activities are: helping with advertising, creating signage for the event, planning the event details, soliciting donations from businesses, pricing the items, providing baked goods, and most importantly – helping on event day!

Your fund-raising committee has been working tirelessly over the past 4 years to help address the financial shortfall at St. Paul's. Please consider joining us on **August 26, 2025 at 10:30 AM** for our next meeting. Any time that you can give is welcome.

Our committee is made up of the following wonderful people: Amanda Mesko, Anita Eisenhard, Steph Wagaman, Mel Dimovitz, Carol Derr-Breinig, Becky Theodore, Peggy Saylor, and Rosalie Gallagher.

## FELLOWSHIP/EVANGELISM

The Fellowship/Evangelism Committee is planning another movie night for Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Starting at 6:00 p.m. come and enjoy some pizza and conversation. At 7:00 p.m. we will watch a movie, name to be announced soon.

Join us on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. for our monthly potluck lunch. Bring an appetizer, salad and dressings, main dish, or dessert to share. Bring your favorite or try something new. Come for the food, stay for the fun and fellowship.

On Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> we have been invited to join Zion Lehigh Church for an outdoor worship service and picnic at Lockridge Park in Alburtis. The service will start at 10:00 a.m. and the picnic will follow the service. We have been asked to provide side dishes and desserts.

There will be signup sheets on the table in the narthex for all 3 of these events.

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP NEWS



Our octopus family is growing! We are continuing to work on the **Crocheted/Knitted Octopuses for Preemies** for St. Luke's Hospital NICU. Thanks to all of our makers! **The deadline for this project is Sunday, November 2.** If you are interested in joining us, see Steph for patterns.

Just a reminder that in addition to our yearly charity knit/crochet project, we continue to make prayer shawls. There are always prayer shawls on hand – if you know of someone who could use a shawl or lap robe, please see Steph, Sandi, or Judy.

Plarn Project/Monthly Working Sessions – Our July and August Plarn sessions are scheduled for **Tuesday, July 15 and Tuesday, August 19 at 1:30PM**. It is a fun and productive working session. We are trying to come up with ways to get more use out of the two weaving looms. If anyone is interested in taking a loom home to weave, let Steph or Judy know.

With limited closet storage, we can accept only plastic bags that have been flattened.

## SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR 2025 BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

We are in need of bulletin sponsorships for 2025. 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 \$24.00 or both vases are \$48.00. 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.



## 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.

We are always looking for additional worship assistants at the 10:30 a.m. service – especially ushers. Please consider volunteering as an usher, greeter, reader, communion bread supplier, communion assistant, or on altar guild. Even if you can only volunteer at certain times of the year, the scheduler can work around and accommodate busy and varying schedules.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration on assisting in worship. If you would be willing and interested in helping, please contact Steph Wagaman at 610-395-0355 or [stepbillwagaman@rcn.com](mailto:stepbillwagaman@rcn.com) or call the church office at 610-398-7000.

## CARD MINISTRY



Here at St. Paul's we send cards to members of the congregation who are ill or in need of a cheerful word. These cards are on the table in the narthex. When you are here on a Sunday, or during the week, check the table to see if there is a card. Please sign your name and help bring a smile to a fellow member.

## HOSPITALIZED?

Parish Code for hospitalized parishioners is 321. Please give this code when you are admitted to the hospital so the church 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 church 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 church to know you are hospitalized on the weekend, please call the church office and leave a message.



6 Dorothy O'Connors	25 Sienna Burley
10 Kathy Maslany	25 Kylee Maslany
14 Briana Mironov	28 Anita Eisenhard
15 Melody Pavlacka	28 John Thomas
16 Sarabeth Mesko	28 Earl Wenz
21 Ed Pearson	29 Kayla Nemeh
25 Kim Bruchak	



16 Bob & Kim Pearson  
 21 Mark & Kathy Maslany  
 22 Kim & Shawn Sicher  
 30 Bob & Donna Nickisher



3 Maria Evans	12 Joseph Mironov
4 Robert Bastian	22 William Heminitz
8 Kay Schlenker	25 Jeffrey Heminitz



6 Joe & Amy Mutis  
 7 Bill & Cheryl Wilburn  
 10 Tom & June Kellogg  
 12 Michael & Kelly Morgenstern  
 16 Ginger & Bill Hallock  
 24 Bruce & Peggy Saylor

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of Martha Lindenmuth:

Rosemary Lehman  
 Bruce & Sandi Wagaman  
 St. Paul's WELCA

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of Irene Wenz:

Rosemary Lehman  
 St. Paul's WELCA



## WHO AM I?

*Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets?  
Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines.  
Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.*

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

Prophets are \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS  
AUGUST 17, 2025**

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



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**CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000  
HOSPITAL CODE: #321  
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE  
EMAIL: [office@stpaulsbbville.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbbville.org)  
Website: [www.stpaulsbbville.org](http://www.stpaulsbbville.org)**

**STAFF**

Interim Pastor.....The Rev. Ginny Goodwin  
Organist/Choir Director ..... Ms. Judy Noll  
Handbell Director..... Mr. Richard Steltz  
Parish Secretary ..... Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky

# July 2025      St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																	
		1	2	3 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	4 	5																																																	
<b>6 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	7 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	8	9 10:00 a.m.-W-ELCA At Pearson Home 7:00 p.m.-Council	10 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	11 6:00 p.m.-Pizza 7:00 p.m.-Movie	12																																																	
<b>13 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	14 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee Mtg.	15 1:30 p.m.-Plarn Session	16 6:30 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.-St. Paul's Cemetery Board Mtg.	17 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	18	19																																																	
<b>20 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m. Potluck Lunch	21 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	22	23	24 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	25	26 Memorial Service For Irene Wenz 9:30 a.m.-Viewing 11:00 a.m.-service																																																	
<b>27 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	28 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	29	30	31 9:30 a.m.-TOPS		<b>August 2025</b> <table> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr> <td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	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

**July 2025**

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000 or the Council Person of the Month – Bruce & Sandi Wagaman 610-203-8085

### **Sunday, July 6, 2025**

#### **9:00AM**

No Assistants

#### **10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Jennifer Bentsen, Cal Fetherolf

**Altar Guild:** Jennifer Bentsen

**Communion Asst:** Bob Bruchak

**Communion Bread:** Bob Bruchak

**Greeter:** Madeline MacMechan

**Lay Asst:** Sandi Wagaman

**Reader:** Daisy Pearson

### **Sunday, July 20, 2025**

#### **9:00AM**

No Assistants

#### **10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Frank Bennighoff, Judy Walker

**Altar Guild:** Rosemary Lehman

**Communion Asst:** Dick Steltz

**Communion Bread:** Bob Nickisher

**Greeter:** Zack Dimovitz

**Lay Asst:** Daisy Pearson

**Reader:** Cal Fetherolf

### **Sunday, July 13, 2025**

#### **9:00AM**

No Assistants

#### **10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Rosie Gallagher, Ken Ritter

**Altar Guild:** Janine Ritter

**Communion Asst:** Tom Kellogg

**Communion Bread:** Ken & Janine Ritter

**Greeter:** Peggy Saylor

**Lay Asst:** Sharon Bortz

**Reader:** June Kellogg

### **Sunday, July 27, 2025**

#### **9:00AM**

No Assistants

#### **10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Melanie Dimovitz, Carl Seibert

**Altar Guild:** Esther Seibert

**Communion Asst:** Sandi Wagaman

**Communion Bread:** Lisa Newhard

**Greeter:** Bruce Wagaman

**Lay Asst:** Dick Steltz

**Reader:** Sharon Bortz

# August 2025      St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
<b>3 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>4</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m. Potluck Lunch	<b>11</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 a.m.-W-ELCA At Pearson Home 7:00 p.m.-Council	<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	<b>15</b> 6:00 p.m.-Pizza 7:00 p.m.-Movie	<b>16</b>
<b>17 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:00 a.m.-Worship	<b>18</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>19</b> 1:30 p.m.-Plarn Session	<b>20</b> 6:30 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting	<b>21</b> 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>25</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>26</b> 10:30 a.m.-Penny Party Mtg.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:30 a.m.-TOPS	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship						

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**August 2025**

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, August 3, 2025**

**9:00AM**

No Assistants

**10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Zack Dimovitz, Peggy Saylor

**Altar Guild:** Steph Wagaman

**Communion Asst:** Rosemary Lehman

**Communion Bread:** Steph Wagaman

**Greeter:** Frank & Sandy Bennighoff

**Lay Asst:** Bob Bruchak

**Reader:** Sandi Wagaman

## **Sunday, August 17, 2025**

**9:00AM**

No Assistants

**10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Madeline MacMechan, Amy Williams

**Altar Guild:** Amy Williams

**Communion Asst:** Tom Kellogg

**Communion Bread:** Tom & June Kellogg

**Greeter:** Carl & Esther Seibert

**Lay Asst:** Lacey Edwards

**Reader:** June Kellogg

## **Sunday, August 10, 2025**

**9:00AM**

No Assistants

**10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Jennifer Bentsen, Cal Fetherolf

**Altar Guild:** Jennifer Bentsen

**Communion Asst:** Daisy Pearson

**Communion Bread:** Carol Derr-Breinig

**Greeter:** Melanie Dimovitz

**Lay Asst:** Rosemary Lehman

**Reader:** Jennifer Bentsen

## **Sunday, August 24, 2025**

**9:00AM**

No Assistants

**10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Ken Ritter, Judy Walker

**Altar Guild:** Janine Ritter

**Communion Asst:** Sharon Bortz

**Communion Bread:** Alice Bastian

**Greeter:** Dorothy O'Connors

**Lay Asst:** Sandi Wagaman

**Reader:** Martine Otto

## **Sunday, August 31, 2025**

**9:00AM**

No Assistants

**10:30AM**

**Ushers:** Frank Bennighoff, Rosie Gallagher

**Altar Guild:** Esther Seibert

**Communion Asst:** Bob Bruchak

**Communion Bread:** Esther Seibert

**Greeter:** Carol Derr-Breinig

**Lay Asst:** Sharon Bortz

**Reader:** Dick Steltz





# NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## Grant-Funded Tech Project Sparks New Ministry Opportunities at Ziegels

*Written by: Winona Schappell of Ziegels Union Church, Breinigsville*

In the fall of 2024, Ziegels Union Church, comprised of two sister congregations, the Ziegel United Church of Christ and Ziegels Lutheran Congregation, embarked on a joint effort to upgrade the shared 1908 church building's Fellowship Room with upgraded technology to enhance and increase informal worship and educational mission opportunities. With the potential of applying grants to support the goal of ministries using technology, Mary Redline (UCC) and Winona Schappell (Lutheran) used local community and current congregation demographics to piece one initiative with the application of four grants: three from UCC Penn Conference grants, Energizing Ministries, Neighbors in Need, and Operational Love of Church, and one from the NEPA Synod Witness and Service grant. With creative planning, the grants were written to cover the funding of a \$13,000 technology initiative. By January 2025, we received notice from Penn Conference and NEPA Synod confirming that all four grant applications were accepted and approved. Excited about the opportunities that these grant approvals offered,

there were still more obstacles to address. The grants did not cover the full quote for a PC projection system from Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound, so fundraisers and memorial/donation drives were needed. However, Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound started work on the project, trusting that we would be successful in raising the balance.



The Lord's blessings came in many shapes and forms.

Communications started with the Union Treasurer on establishing an accounting system to monitor grant expenditures. Union committees (Christian Education, Worship and Music, History, Fellowship) were contacted to

begin considering how to incorporate the use of the technology for our 275th Anniversary Celebrations in 2025. The Technology Committee helped to wire Internet connections, and the Property Committee found an electrician to complete the required electrical work. And with the Lord's blessings, individual members contributed donations and memorial funds of over \$6,300. With the support of the congregational members and committee volunteers, this whirlwind project was completed in three months.



On March 19th, Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound completed all the installations for a PC-controlled multimedia projection system. That same evening, Pastor Andy Meckstroth, Lutheran Pastor, used the projection system for the second Wednesday Lenten service held in the Fellowship Room. Both Pastor Andy and Pastor Larry Pickens, UCC Pastor, continued to use the projection system for the remaining Wednesday Lenten services.

Since March, several 275th Anniversary events have been held. Christian Education used the technology for a Martha Washington Tea Party and Youth Sunday worship service. The History Committee sponsored two presentations: *The Pennsylvania Germans: Past, Present & Future* by Dr. W. Donner and *The Muhlenberg Family and the Lutheran Church in Early Pennsylvania* by Christopher Malone, Curator of Historic Trappe. Weekly PowerPoint slideshows of church announcements were presented during the Fellowship Hour that is held between the Lutheran and UCC Sunday services. Families have used the system to share family photos during viewings and funeral luncheons. The system is providing an avenue of endless ministry opportunities for church committees and leadership. It is an exciting future of ministry at Ziegels Union Church, thanks to the seed funding from the Synod and Penn Conference grants.



**DID YOU KNOW** that your Mission Support helps fund areas of the synod like this one and many other important initiatives? Your contributions are making a significant impact and helping others grow in faith, supporting the synod's lanes of Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life, along with the directions of loving like Jesus, healing like Jesus, and engaging like Jesus. To learn more, visit [godslove.org/missionsupport](https://godslove.org/missionsupport).

## WITNESS & SERVICE GRANTS



Grab your leadership or ministry team and complete an application!

[godslove.org/witness-service](https://godslove.org/witness-service)

- 01 Complete an application
- 02 The Grant Team reviews your application and notifies you
- 03 Complete your project!
- 04 Submit your evaluation form

The Grants Team is looking for members to join in their work.  
Contact [grants@nepsynod.org](mailto:grants@nepsynod.org) if interested





## SAVE THE DATE: LMD Rostered Ministers Gathering

September 10, 2025  
at 10:30 AM at  
The Lutheran Center  
(2354 Grove Road,  
Allentown)

Topic: What is a Mission  
District?—A candid  
conversation about our  
past and our future.

Moderated by LMD Dean:  
Rev. Thomas D. Busteed

## CHRISTMAS INGATHERING

Mark your calendars:

### Christmas InGathering Planning Meeting

Wednesday,  
September 10, 2025  
at 7:00 PM at St. John's  
Lutheran Church  
(501 Chestnut St, Emmaus)

### Christmas InGathering

Wednesday,  
December 3, 2025  
at St. John's Lutheran Church  
(501 Chestnut St, Emmaus)

Thanks & Blessings,  
Alice, Faith, Pam,  
Penny & Shellie  
(Contact: 610-390-9694)



September 2025 LMD NL news  
will be due August 11, 2025.

Please email any information to  
[lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com)

## “Ohne Verdienst” part 1

Buried beneath layers of paint and plaster is the old back wall of Zion's (Old Zionsville) chancel. None of us who are alive today would have seen this wall before it was covered up. We only know that it is there because of old pictures and some exploration of the attic and organ chambers. Beneath this paint and plaster is a forgotten time of our congregation's history, before all the white paint covered everything. From black and white pictures, it is difficult to tell what color the chancel was painted. Maybe it was white, or perhaps it could have been an olive green color so common in church buildings built in the second half of the 19th century. We can make out from old photographs and the organ chambers that there used to be colorful stencil work all along the upper part of the walls. There's also ornate plaster work throughout the chancel, of a vine and floral motif. Most telling of our past, hidden above on the back wall is a large inscription, all in beautiful old German script, that says: “Gebet Gott, was Gottes ist.”

It is a paraphrase from the gospels, when the Pharisees ask Jesus whether it is lawful for a Jew to pay taxes to Caesar. Jesus looks at a coin and then asks them: “Whose head is this on this coin.” The Pharisees reply: “Caesar.” Jesus responds: “Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, and unto God what is God's.” Why our ancestors at Zion's chose this particular verse of scripture to be the focal point of this chancel, we don't know. Perhaps buried somewhere in old Council meeting minutes is the answer. However I bet most of us have forgotten why this verse was chosen, even if we ever knew.

There is a similar forgetting going on in John 8. In verse 33, the crowd says to Jesus: “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone.” Now wait a minute! Did they forget their history? Did they not remember the story of Exodus, when their ancestors left slavery in Egypt and wandered in the wilderness for 40 years? Did they not remember how harsh Pharaoh was to their enslaved ancestors? How can they say to Jesus: “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone”? This just doesn't make sense.

And yet how easily and quickly we forget our history. It doesn't even need to be that long ago. Zion's chancel renovations happened just a little over 100 years ago and we are left with a mystery as to why they did what they did. Why all the white paint? Why cover up the German script? Why cover up the ornate plaster? Did taste and style change? Was the ornate plaster and stencil work damaged? ...to be continued.

The Rev. Thomas D. Busteed, Dean

## 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 11 - Catholic Friends &  
Pr. Bud Daneker

June 18 - The Dulcimer Boys &  
Pr. Glenn Simmons

June 25 - Union Lutheran Praise  
Team & Pr. Gordon Camp

July 2 - The Blend, The Barn  
Faith Community & Pr. Joanne  
Marchetto

July 9 - Bobby Siegfried &  
Pr. Maritza T. Dolich

July 16 - Glorious Day Praise  
Band & The Rev. Charles Colson

July 23 - Urban Mystics &  
Pr. Danilo Sanchez

July 30 - Nativity Lutheran Praise  
Team & Pr. Matt Hacker

August 6 - Freely Given Gospel  
& Pr. Cynthia Reyder Geyer

August 13 - Grace Notes Gospel  
Big Band, Lehigh Valley &  
Pr. Sue Pizor Yoder

August 20 - St. Timothy Lutheran  
Church ANNUAL PEACH  
FESTIVAL (6-7:30 PM)

*Each week a freewill offering will be taken &  
those funds will be given to a specific group.*

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

*See attached flyer to post.*



### OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave, Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-435-9155

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

Email: [LMDopsunshine@aol.com](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)

Website: [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://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.*

**Many of the shows are close to sold out or  
only a few seats remaining, so don't wait!!!**

If you are interested, we encourage you to put  
your name on a wait list for any sold-out shows.

**Please see the website  
or attached newsletter for details.**

**In celebration of NOAH's 30th anniversary  
season, Sight & Sound® is broadcasting  
LIVE into movie theaters nationwide!**

Join us as this landmark production goes  
from the big stage to the big screen.  
(August 29<sup>th</sup>-September 4<sup>th</sup>)

For tickets or more info: [www.noahevent.com](http://www.noahevent.com)



### Jerusalem Singers Concert

Sunday, July 20 at 7:00 PM  
at St. John's Lutheran Church  
(1028 Church Street, Fogelsville)

All are welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert  
series. Donations will be collected for Satori's  
"Gift of Music" program.

*See the attached flyer for details and other dates.*



**THANK YOU** for helping our 2024 Greater  
Allentown CROP Hunger Walk raise  
over \$30,000 to help our neighbors in the  
Allentown area and beyond!

As a result of your generosity, the **LEHIGH  
CHURCHES' CONFERENCE KITCHEN** and the  
**ALLENTOWN AREA ECUMENICAL FOOD  
BANK** is receiving more than \$3700 each for  
their vital ministries with neighbors experiencing  
food insecurity in our area.

And **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE** is able to  
help many more of our neighbors who are  
struggling in the aftermath of floods, fires,  
droughts, and other disasters throughout the  
United States and the world.

CHRISTMAS, BIRTHDAY, or ANNIVERSARY GIFT IDEA: In honor of loved  
ones, give the gift of life! DONATE ANYTIME to the CROP Hunger Walk at  
[www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)

## Please Save the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk Date!

**Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk:**  
Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025, 1:30 p.m.,  
with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
(140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104)

Find more information about the life-saving  
work of Church World Service at:  
[crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)





# Jerusalem Singers Presents OUR **30TH ANNIVERSARY** CONCERT



## SINGING WITH FRIENDS

**SUNDAY, JULY 20 - 7 P.M.**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1028 Church St., Fogelsville, PA 18051

**SUNDAY JULY 27 - 7 P.M.**

United Fellowship Lutheran Church  
2115 Washington Blvd, Easton, PA

**TUESDAY JULY 29 - 7:30 P.M.**

Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church  
3441 Devonshire Rd., Allentown, PA



**We're accepting donations to Satori's "Gift Of Music" program.**

"Gift of Music" donates instruments to students in Lehigh Valley music programs.



Follow us on Social Media to stay up to date on our shows! Scan the QR code or visit us at [jerusalemsingers.com](http://jerusalemsingers.com).

**MERCH AVAILABLE AT CONCESSION TABLE!**

All profits from merchandise sales will go to support Jerusalem Singers.