

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

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**OCTOBER 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 – TWO EMOTIONS CONTROL OUR LIVES

You may want to discuss this with me. You might say, “Pastor, I have many emotions that roll through me every day.” And I will say, “Yes, we all do. They each lead back to the two emotions that control our lives.”

So, what are they? Love and ---- thought I was going to say hate? Nope, it is the origin of hate that lies within us. It is fear. We learn a lot about love in the church. There is the attraction one has for another called eros, the affection one has for family and friends, and the agape love we speak about in the context of God's love for each one of us and toward each other. Most of us can understand these types of love without much explanation.

Pastor, what is this fear you talk about? I will ask you: What do you fear?

**When you worry**, I want you to think about why you are in such a state? What drives your worry?

**When you are angry**, what is the precipitating factor that drove you to that state?

**When someone upsets you** to a degree that blocks clear thinking, what took you to that place?

**When you wish unkind things** upon another, what is the motivation for that degree of feeling?

Should I go on with the list of negative reactions? We wonder why someone buys three guns to shoot up a grocery store or a church or a school or who knows what else. It's their mental health we are told --- and then we feel better because we would never be driven to such a state.

Yet, we still want a clearer explanation as to why THEY did such a thing. What were the circumstances that brought them to that evil ending? We want to blame something, anything, or anyone to protect ourselves from such an ending.

Negative thoughts are uncomfortable thoughts. Are they created by fear? YES. We sit by watching the story play out in fear. It is fear first and then the anger and worry followed by the outrage that blocks our clear thinking and finally we end up wanting or wishing something awful to happen to whoever or whatever caused it in the first place. Yes, it started with fear.

So, where is the Love? How do we treat this malady of fear that can suddenly flow through us? It can happen in one second, one moment, one day at a time. We turn to the love we know and have of our God's triumph over fear. And with our prayers and God's presence, together, we sink fear to the bottom of the ocean. All day, every day. It takes practice, patience, and positive thinking. We can do it.

Lord, wash us in your LOVE... *Pastor Ginny*

## MONTHLY PRAYER FAMILIES

In OCTOBER we will be praying for the following families each week;

**Oct 5:** The Dimovitz Family, the Edwards Family, the Eisenhard Family,  
The Eiswerth Family

**Oct 12:** The Evans Family, The Ferguson Family, The Fetherolf Family,  
The Figner Family

**Oct 19** The Gade family, The Gallagher Family, The Goodwin Family,  
The Grammes Family

**Oct 26:** The Guzman Family, The Hallock Family, The Hartley Family,  
The Heminitz Family

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION

Sunday School and Confirmation began on **September 14**. Please contact the church office or see the pastor if you would like to have your child join us.

## PET BLESSINGS

We will have a Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. We'll gather at 12:30 p.m. outside at the pavilion. Hot dogs, beverages and baked goods will be available for sale. The blessing will take place at approximately 1:00 p.m. You may bring your pet or a picture of your pet to be blessed. Each pet will receive a small token gift. There will be a dog and cat basket raffle and \$50.00 gift card raffle for PetSmart and Giant. Proceeds will go to PA Caring Hearts.



## **WE ARE HIRING!**



As many of you know, our administrative assistant Cindy is retiring at the end of the year. We thank her for her many years of service but now – we need to hire a new administrative assistant!

If you are interested or know of anyone who is interested in this position, please notify us. The job is for 30 hours a week and office experience is preferred. Call or email Bruce Saylor at 610 762-7001 or email at [brsaylor@ptd.net](mailto:brsaylor@ptd.net).

## **WHAT IS A LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR?**

They are members of the congregation who are selected by their pastor and trained in the Biblical and theological background of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. They will bring the communion meal from worship to ill and homebound members of our congregation who are unable to attend the service.

St Paul's will have several members trained this October and will be prepared to visit and administer the sacrament shortly thereafter. They will call ahead and travel in pairs, whenever possible, to visit.

It is our hope this will help those who are unable to attend worship with us to feel better connected to our Lord and to the congregation.

## **ALLENTOWN ECUMENICAL FOOD BANK**

The Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank is in need of the current items: cold cereals (no sugar preferred), canned vegetables, canned fruit and canned soups. Place your items in the box by the social hall doors under the coat rack.

## FREE FLU SHOTS

LVHN is offering FREE drive thru flu shots at the following locations from 9-3 pm on each date.

Please register on line at [LVHN.org/flushot](http://LVHN.org/flushot)

for each person in your car. You may also register in person on the day of the shot.

Please wear loose fitting clothes so the shot may be administered in the arm.



**Saturday, October 11 9-3 pm**

**Lehigh Valley Hospital-Hecktown Oaks  
3780 Hecktown Road  
Nazareth Township, PA**

**Sunday, October 12 9-3 pm**

**Intergrated Health Campus  
240 Cetronia Road  
South Whitehall Township**

LVHN is again partnering with area food banks and shelters to accept donations of unexpired, non-perishable food items. Also, diapers, personal hygiene items, coffee pods and disinfectant wipes to assist those in need will also be accepted but not required.

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

September

The search for an Administrative Assistant is ongoing. The job description has been in the Free Press and on the Synod website.

Council continues with the discussion of a large screen for worship.

Council continues to look into a ramp for the entrance to the church. Something that has come under consideration is a portable ramp.

Our October council meeting is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

## HARVEST SUNDAY



We will be celebrating a Harvest Sunday at St. Paul's on October 12, 2025 – to celebrate and commemorate the gathering in of harvest. The Worship and Music Committee will be decorating the church with fall décor and harvest items. For our harvest celebration service, we will sing hymns of celebration, hear scripture about God's abundance, and give thanks for our bounty.

While we give thanks for our abundance, we recognize those in need. Hence, we are calling for donations of non-perishable food items. You can bring your non-perishable items to church beginning Sunday, September 28, and place them in a box in Narthex marked "Harvest Home." The donated food items will go to the food bank.

Help us to celebrate Harvest Sunday on October 12th, and bring food donations for those in need in our community.

## LEHIGH VALLEY † OUTREACH DEPOT

[www.lvoutreachdepot.org](http://www.lvoutreachdepot.org)

610-861-7373

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.

## **FELLOWSHIP/EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

Come check out what's happening in our church for the month of October.

October 17<sup>th</sup> is movie night. Mr. Richard Steltz is picking our October movie. Pizza is at 6:00 p.m., movie will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for fun, food and fellowship at our October potluck on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

October 10-12 we are planning to join with Neffs UCC helping with: "Feed My Starving Children". We are awaiting further correspondence from them. As of now, they have not contacted us. We were concerned the USAID may have affected their plan. Hopefully, more information will come shortly.

Going into early November, we will be continuing our concert series. November 9<sup>th</sup>, we have invited Russ Rentler to do a concert for us! He has accepted. Russ is a wonderful musician. He plays stringed instruments, for example: guitar, mandolin, and autoharp to name a few. He also has made some of his instruments. He is a wonderful musician and also very funny. Come out to hear Russ on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon of hearing the talented Russ Rentler.

November 9<sup>th</sup> is also our potluck for November.

## **TOPS HAS CHANGED THEIR NAME**

TOPS, the group that meets here on Thursday has changed their name and format. They are now, AMAZING WOMENS SENIOR GROUP.

Their purpose is Living Our Best Lives and Encouraging Women To Be Their Best As We Age.

Meetings are Thursday Mornings 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Join them and make new friends.



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.

Did you guess who last month's person was? It was Amy Williams.

Here are the clues for this month's congregant:

Loves all animals

Was an animal rights activist

Was arrested 8 times and jailed for 1 week

Lived in Washington D. C.

Who am I?

## **HOME HEALTH PRODUCTS FOR ENCAMPMENT RELOCATION PEOPLE**

We are asking for Home Health Products to help with those who are being rehoused from the encampments along Jorden Creek.

Please do not think an extra-large size is better - it takes up too much room in a backpack.

Items needed in smaller containers:

Wash cloth, soothing cream, powder, shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, tooth brush and paste, lip balm, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, woman's products (pads and tampons)

Anything you use we missed on the list.



## **WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH [WELCA]**

We had our meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2025.

- Our July Bible study was *Money, stewardship and generosity* Session one *Money: What do we treasure?* by Christa Von Zychlin which focused on treasure as, or wealth, is not highly valued in the Bible or among the spiritually minded. Or is it?
- Our October Bible study will be *Money, stewardship and generosity* Session two *Money: How do we tend our treasure?* by Christa Von Zychlin explores that stewardship is about tending what has been entrusted to us.

•  
WELCA will be having our annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on January 4, 2026, after the 10:30 a.m. service and Judith Wanfried, will speak on artistry of Mary, Mother of Jesus.

We will be participating in the In-gathering which is scheduled for early December. See details from Sandi Wagaman's article.

### **ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO THESE EVENTS**

#### **NEWS FROM THE NEPA WELCA - - - - - SAVE THE DATE**

- Spring Justice Event, April 11, 2026, Hope Cherryville and topic to be decided in the near future.
- 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the NEPA Women of the ELCA, June 13, 2026, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Breinigsville. The topic is to be decided.

Join us for our next meeting, Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

10/5 Pet Blessing

10/12 Potluck

10/17 Pizza & Movie

11/9 Potluck

11/9 Russ Rentler Concert

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

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP NEWS



We are continuing to work on the **Crocheted/Knitted Octopuses for Preemies** for St. Luke's Hospital NICU. We currently have **46** octopuses for donation! Thank you to all of our makers! **The deadline for this project is Sunday, November 2.** On that date, the octopuses will be blessed during worship service.

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 October Plarn session is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 21 at 1:30PM**. (Note: these sessions are always held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.) It is a fun and productive working session – with lots to do! You can flatten bags, cut bags, tie loops, crochet or weave mats. If anyone is interested in taking a loom home to weave, let Steph or Judy know.

## LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING 2025 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

This year we will be collecting small items for the Allentown Rescue Mission and Turning Point. We will also be assigned specific gifts that will be given in gift bags. We are awaiting the information regarding which organizations and names/requests will be for us to purchase. Watch for the signup sheets on the tables in the narthex, the lists of requested small items and the plastic bins under the coat racks for your small donations. St. Paul's has always done a great job helping our neighbors have a Merry Christmas.

Sandi Wagaman, coordinator

## **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.

### **THE SURPASSING GRACE**

The word “surpass” means to exceed, to go beyond, to transcend the reach or capacity of. In his second letter to the church at Corinth, St. Paul refers to “the surpassing grace of God that he has given you” (2 Corinthians 9:14, NRSV). Paul was reminding the Corinthians of the amazing, abundant grace God had showered upon them.

When Paul wrote that letter, the church in Jerusalem was suffering intense persecution. The members were poor and struggling to be faithful under dire circumstances.

Paul knew the church at Corinth was doing fine financially and that they had a mind to help out the Jerusalem church. He wrote: “You glorify God ... by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they ... pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you” (2 Corinthians 9:13-14, NRSV).

Consider how you can share God’s surpassing grace with others in need.

## **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.



8 Ginger Hallock	24 Helen Kessler
13 Patrick Cope	25 Sean Thompson
15 Amy Williams	27 Linda Dietrich
16 Esther Seibert	29 Allison Thompson
21 Anthony Pisauo	29 Judy Walker
23 Garret Pavlacka	



3 Keith & Becky Theodore  
 6 George & Julie Sanchez  
 14 William & Sharon Heminitz  
 25 Carl & Esther Seibert, Jr.  
 28 Steve & Amanda Mesko

## HOLY INTERRUPTIONS

Most of us are pretty good at planning—schedules, to-do lists, calendars filled to the brim. But what happens when God steps in with an unexpected detour?



Throughout Scripture, God often moved in the interruptions. Moses was tending sheep when he saw a burning bush. Mary was simply living her life

when an angel appeared. Even Jesus was frequently “interrupted” by people seeking healing or hope—and He never turned them away.

“Interruptible faith” is a posture of openness. It’s saying, “Lord, here’s my plan—but I trust Yours more.” It means slowing down, paying attention, and being willing to let God rearrange our day for His greater purpose.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV) reminds us, *“In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.”* May we have the courage to let Him.

## PROVIDENCE AND PASTRIES

After starting a new diet, I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window was a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, “Lord, it is up to you. If you want me to have any of those delicious baked goods, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery.”

And sure enough, God answered my prayer! On the eighth time round the block, there it was!

## JUST SHOW UP!

In *A Million Little Ways* (Revell), Emily Freeman says in order for Christians to “show up as you are with what you’ve been given,” we must confront these statements:

- I’m not cut out for this.
- Someone else can do it better.
- People might not like it.
- I have nothing to offer.
- I hate my calling.
- It’s a waste of time.
- It’s too much work.
- Who do you think you are?

“A million loud voices ... keep us from the million little ways [Jesus] wants to show up through us to the world,” Freeman writes.

## THE SOUNDS OF WORSHIP

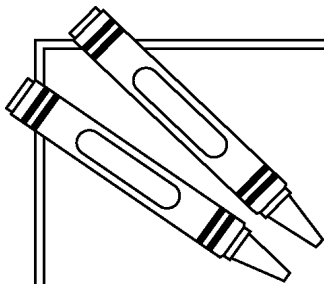
Have you ever paused to listen — really listen — to the world around you?

*“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!”* (Psalm 98:4, ESV)

The hum of morning birdsong. The laughter of children. The comforting voice of a friend. Even the quiet moments of stillness. These aren’t just background noise — they’re invitations to worship.

God designed a world that sings. Worship isn’t limited to Sunday mornings or formal songs; it’s woven into the everyday moments that tune our hearts to Him. And when we pause to truly hear it, we are drawn into praise, right where we are.

What sound lifts your heart toward God today? Take a moment to listen. Let it remind you of His love and nearness.



# Just for KIDS

## Jesus Traveled to Many Places

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of those places. Can you find all the names on the list?

BETHANY  
BETHLEHEM  
BETHSAIDA  
CAESAREA PHILIPPI  
CANAN  
CAPERNAUM  
DECAPOLIS  
EGYPT

EPHRAIM  
GALILEE  
JERICHO  
JERUSALEM  
JORDAN RIVER  
JUDEA  
MAGDALA  
MOUNT OF OLIVES

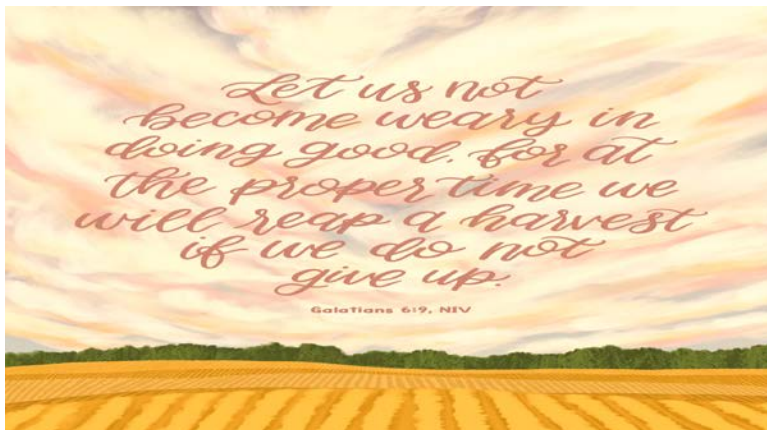


NAZARETH  
PEREA  
SAMARIA  
SIDON  
TYRE  
WILDERNESS

B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
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H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
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E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
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L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
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**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS  
OCTOBER 12, 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



# OCTOBER 2025      St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																	
			1	2 9:30 a.m.-Amazing Womens Seniors Group 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	3	4																																																	
<b>5 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship 12:30 p.m.-Pet Blessing	<b>6</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA	<b>9</b> 9:30 a.m.-Amazing Womens Seniors Group 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>10</b>  Neff's U.C.C. Feed Fundraiser	<b>11</b> 1:00 p.m.-Decorate For Harvest Home  My Starving Children																																																	
<b>12 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HARVEST HOME</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30-Potluck Lunch <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (OFFICIAL COLUMBUS DAY)</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.-St. Paul's Cemetery Board Mtg.	<b>16</b> 9:30 a.m.-Amazing Womens Seniors Group 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>17</b> 6:00 p.m.-Pizza 7:00 p.m.-Movie	<b>18</b>																																																	
<b>19 NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 p.m.-Council	<b>20</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>21</b> 1:30 p.m.-Plarn Session	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 a.m.-Amazing Womens Seniors Group 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>																																																	
<b>26 REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>27</b> 10:00 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 a.m.-Amazing Womens Seniors Group 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>31 HALLOWEEN</b> 	<b>November 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></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></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						
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## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

### **October 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, October 5, 2025**

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

No Assistants

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

**Ushers:** Carl Seibert, Amy Williams

**Altar Guild:** Jennifer Bentsen

**Communion Asst:** Lacey Edwards

**Communion Bread:** Jennifer Bentsen

**Greeter:** Alice Bastian

**Lay Asst:** Rosemary Lehman

**Reader:** Sharon Bortz

#### **Sunday, October 19, 2025**

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

No Assistants

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

**Ushers:** Cal Fetherolf, Judy Walker

**Altar Guild:** Esther Seibert

**Communion Asst:** Bob Bruchak

**Communion Bread:** Bob Bruchak

**Greeter:** Bruce Wagaman

**Lay Asst:** Sharon Bortz

**Reader:** Tom Kellogg

#### **Sunday, October 12, 2025**

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

No Assistants

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

**Ushers:** Melanie Dimovitz, Ken Ritter

**Altar Guild:** Janine Ritter

**Communion Asst:** Daisy Pearson

**Communion Bread:** Ken & Janine Ritter

**Greeter:** Madeline MacMechan

**Lay Asst:** Sandi Wagaman

**Reader:** Dick Steltz

#### **Sunday, October 26, 2025**

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

No Assistants

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

**Ushers:** Frank Bennighoff, Judy Walker

**Altar Guild:** Rosemary Lehman

**Communion Asst:** Tom Kellogg

**Communion Bread:** Helen Post

**Greeter:** Peggy Saylor

**Lay Asst:** Daisy Pearson

**Reader:** Cal Fetherolf





Sep 2025





# NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## What Mission Support Looks Like

*A story about our 2025 Churchwide Assembly*



Almost a thousand ELCA Lutherans made their way to toasty Phoenix, Ariz., to gather for the 2025 Churchwide Assembly from July 28 to Aug. 2. It was a joyous, thoughtful and busy week. Alongside the normal business of the assembly — considering resolutions, memorials and social statements — voting members were tasked with electing a new presiding bishop and secretary to lead our church for the next six years.

The Rev. Yehiel Curry, who currently serves as the bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod, was elected to serve as our new presiding bishop.

Presiding Bishop-elect Curry has a fascinating vocational story. He started his ministry as a lay mission developer at Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill., while participating in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program in pursuit of ordination. Following his election, he told the assembly, “Perhaps I’m out there in one of you. I never saw myself as good enough. And so, for two years, I said no, and finally said yes to becoming a mission developer. When I said yes, your support, this church’s support, of that ministry meant everything. So if you want to know what your benevolence dollars [including Mission Support] look like, it looks like me. And I want to say thank you. Thank you for your investment.”

The assembly also elected the Rev. Lucille “CeCee” Mills to be our next secretary. Secretary-elect Mills currently serves as assistant to the bishop and interim director for evangelical mission in the ELCA North Carolina Synod. Following her election, she remarked, “I have to echo our newly elected presiding bishop and say, I am the product of you. I am also a TEEM candidate.” Mills celebrated “a new season for our church. I do believe that the reason why I, an African American woman, [can stand] before you, with no degrees in a church that loves to have people who are educated, is because you saw the gifts in me and the possibility and potential in me. ... I celebrate with you that we listen to God’s call and that we will become God’s beloved community.”





Both Presiding Bishop-elect Curry and Secretary-elect Mills celebrated and gave thanks for the support of the whole church, including the impact that the sharing of Mission Support had on both of their ministries. Through Mission Support, synods and the churchwide organization provide vital funding for mission developers, new and emerging ministries, and candidates in the TEEM program, which prepares individuals for ordained ministry in the ELCA, with a focus on emerging ministry contexts such as ethnic-specific, multicultural, rural and inner-city settings. Our next presiding bishop and secretary were both able to answer their new calls in part because of our Mission Support dollars and the investment made in them by the whole church. We all say, Amen.

## ELCA MISSION SUPPORT VIDEO

AVAILABLE FOR ALL TO SHARE AT [GODSLOVE.ORG/MISSIONSUPPORT](https://GODSLOVE.ORG/MISSIONSUPPORT)

Do you need a way to explain Mission Support to others? This Mission Support video details how your congregational offering supports ministries around the world through our synods and churchwide organization. Of the \$1.6 billion given to ELCA congregations and worshipping communities as regular offerings, most stays with the congregation to fund its vital ministry. A portion — about 5% on average — becomes Mission Support, given by congregations to our synods. Mission Support ensures that synods can find and equip leaders of all ages and deploy an array of ministries, including those of synod companions and those for youth and young adults. Our synods, in turn, give a portion of that Mission Support to our churchwide organization to fund our shared work across the country and around the world. Mission Support is possible only because of your congregational offering. Read more stories about Mission Support at [livinglutheran.org/SOFIA](https://livinglutheran.org/SOFIA).



In gratitude,  
Victoria Flood, ELCA Senior Director for Congregation and Synod Support  
Nick Kiger, ELCA Director for Mission Support  
Karen Kretschmann, ELCA Coordinator for Storytelling Engagement

**DID YOU KNOW** that your Mission Support helps fund areas of the synod and ELCA 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).

 **LUTHERAN  
WORLD RELIEF** 2354 Grove Road  
Allentown, PA  
**October 10 & 11**

Friday Oct 10 from 9:00am to 12:00pm  
Saturday Oct 11 from 8:00am to 9:00am

Accepted items include Baby Care Kits, School Kits, Personal Care Kits, and Quilts.

[godslove.org/2025-lwr-ingathering](https://godslove.org/2025-lwr-ingathering)



2nd Drop Off Location: Christ, Reading Oct 11 at 9:30am or any Friday between 9:00am and 12:00pm



VOLUME 30  
ISSUE 9  
October  
2025



## Lehigh Mission District NEWSLETTER

The Rev. Thomas D. Busteed, Dean  
The Rev. Jean L. Huber, Assoc. of the Bishop,  
Mission District Chair  
Linda Gery, Newsletter Editor

610-966-3834  
610-704-5133  
TBD  
610-395-5535

### We've moved!

Our new address is:  
Lehigh Mission District  
(or "LMD")  
PO Box 10  
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Thank you to all our  
congregations who continue  
to regularly support the  
mission district in your  
benevolence giving!



### Upcoming Rostered Ministers Gatherings:

Wednesday, October 15,  
10:30am-12noon  
at the Lutheran Center  
(Synod Office)  
Rev. Jira Albers -  
Licensed Lay Ministry

Wednesday, November 12  
10:30am-12noon  
at the Lutheran Center  
(Synod Office)  
Ms. Stacy Klann -  
Evertrue Living

Thursday, December 11,  
beginning at 8am  
at Egner Chapel,  
Muhlenberg College  
Advent Eucharist Service  
followed by breakfast in  
the Hoffman House



**November 2025 LMD NL news  
will be due October 13, 2025.**

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

Photo credit: 17th c. Icelandic manuscript-Fenrir

## "Ohne Verdienst" part 3

Verdienst can also be translated as 'wages,' 'earnings,' or 'income.' The root of the word Verdienst is found in other similar meaning words such as 'verdien' which is 'to earn'; 'dienst' which is 'to employ'; and 'Diens' which is 'service'. It is also the root of 'Dienstag' which is German for Tuesday. Now where do you think the word 'Tuesday' came from? Let's go down a little rabbit hole. The answer is in old German/Norse mythology that we largely have forgotten. 'Dienstag' is the same as 'Tuesday' in old English: Tiwesdæg which means Tyr's day. Now, who was Tyr? Before our Germanic ancestors were converted to Christianity, Tyr was one of the gods. His particular role was a god of war (which in Roman mythology Tyr is associated with Mars whose day is "martis" which is the Roman word for Tuesday, and most commonly associated with 'mardi gras' which means 'fat Tuesday'.) However Tyr's role as a god of war was more specific. His job was to see that war was played by the rules. He was associated with justice. He was a "guardian of oaths" and a "guarantor of treaties and contracts." He was the divine legal expert and the guardian of the law. This may be why Verdienst and other words like it have an emphasis on earning and merit. We still write contracts today to spell out a person's earnings and obligations.

Tyr paid a price. The legend goes that there was an evil wolf named Fenrir, son of the demon Loki, who was very strong. It was prophesied that Fenrir would devour the sun in the Doomsday. So the gods had to figure out a way to keep Fenrir the wolf chained to a rock. Initially they played with him like a pet dog. They pretended that it was a game to test his strength when they tried chaining him with different chains. However Fenrir was very strong and kept breaking whatever material chain they tried to bind him in. Then the gods went to the realm of the dwarves for a chain that could not be broken, made from the sound of a cat's footsteps, the roots of mountains, the breath of a fish, and the spit of a bird. When the gods approached Fenrir with this chain to 'play' with him, this time Fenrir became suspicious. He wanted some guarantee that he wasn't being tricked. And so Tyr, the oath keeper, agreed to Fenrir's demands that one of the gods should place their hand in Fenrir's jaws as an act of good faith. Thus, the gods were able to trick Fenrir. They bound him in the chain made by the dwarves. Fenrir bit off Tyr's hand. Thus the contract was satisfied...*to be continued.*

The Rev. Thomas D. Busteed,  
Lehigh Mission District Dean

## Fall Basket Social

Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6-8 pm  
Sat., October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 2 pm  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
(1028 Church Street,  
Fogelsville)

*Please see the attached flyer for details.*

## Apple Harvest Festival

Sat., October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1– 4 pm  
Grace Lutheran Church  
(28 W. Main Street,  
Macungie)

*Please see the attached flyer for details.*

## Animal Blessing & Fire Pit Fellowship

Saturday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm  
Rain date: Oct 11<sup>th</sup>  
Zion's Lutheran Church  
(5901 King's Highway S.,  
Old Zionsville)

We'll say a few prayers, sing a few songs, and then roast a few marshmallows together. Pets on leashes/harnesses are welcome to come for a spoken blessing. Bring a lawn chair and a blanket, and your favorite sticks for roasting marshmallows.

## Basket & Gift Card Social

Sat., October 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 am - 4 pm  
Sun., October 26<sup>th</sup>, 12-3 pm  
Trinity Memorial Luth. Church  
(535 W. Emaus Avenue,  
Allentown)

*Please see the attached flyer for details.*

## St. Andrew's Cash Bingo

Sun., November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1 pm  
Doors open at 11:30 am  
held at the Fearless Fire Co.  
(1221 S. Front Street,  
Allentown)

*Please see the attached flyer for details.*

## ALL SAINTS CONCERT

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 pm  
at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit  
(3461 Cedar Crest Blvd, Emmaus)

The Spirit Voices will present a musical service in memory of all the saints who have died. Along with other anthems, the service will include a performance of Heather Sorensen's Requiem with chamber orchestra. This piece was written in 2023 as a musical tribute to the lives lost during the COVID-19 pandemic and stands as a beautiful testament to loss, memory, and spiritual healing. Please join us for an afternoon of worship and remembrance. Refreshments will follow.

For more info, call the church at 610-967-2220.



The Neighborhood Center is busier than ever! Kids are filling our center with energy, laughter, and learning. But to keep up with the growing need, we're asking for your help. A gift today will provide safe after-school activities, homework help, warm meals, and a place where kids know they belong. You truly make it possible for us to keep serving the children who need us most.

[www.theneighborhoodcenterallentown.com](http://www.theneighborhoodcenterallentown.com)  
344 N. 7th Street, Allentown, PA 18102  
Phone: 610-434-5799



## 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.*

**All the 2025 trips are currently SOLD OUT!**

If you are still interested, we encourage you to put your name on a wait list as we invariably have cancellations.

*Please see the attached newsletter for details.*

## CHRISTMAS INGATHERING

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

Thank you to all who were able to attend the planning meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

If there are any questions please call  
Penny at 610-390-9694

Thank you for your support in making this ministry happen.  
~ Alice, Faith, Pam, Shellie ~



### Please join us in the fight against hunger!

The steps we take and funds we raise make a huge difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.

[www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)

**Help Your Congregation as You Help Others**  
through the Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk as it supports the Lehigh Conference of Churches Kitchen, the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, and Church World Service in bringing help and hope to our neighbors facing food insecurity due to poverty, homelessness, and natural and human-made disasters.

**LIKE** us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AllentownCROPWalk/>

## 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)

If someone in your congregation hasn't already done so, start your congregation's team **ASAP**. Encourage participants to carry CROP Hunger Walk signs with your congregation's name on them. Materials for making your signs will be available on the sign-making table at St. Timothy's.

**\*\*EVERYONE:** Please **DONATE**, and **DISTRIBUTE** attached Walker/Donor and Sponsorship **BROCHURES\*\***

Walkers who raise **\$150 or more by 10/19/25** earn a **FREE T-SHIRT**.

T-shirts will also be available for purchase.

**TWO ROUTES** from which walkers may choose: a 10K route and a "Golden Mile" route.

OPERATION SUNSHINE



1987

2022

Dick & Paula Skelly, Co-Trip Coordinators  
1933 Hanover Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18109  
610-435-9155  
**Day of Trip Emergency # 610-417-3286**



## OPERATION SUNSHINE

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

*Please join us and invite your friends as we enjoy a variety of venues together.*

## 2025 JULY TO DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

### DAY TRIP CANCELLATION POLICY:

1. If you cancel your reservation prior to the Payment Deadline – Full Refund
2. If you cancel your reservation after the Payment Deadline, but provide a paying replacement traveler - Full Refund
3. If you cancel your reservation after the Payment Deadline, but cancellation is due to a hospitalization – Full Refund
4. If you cancel your reservation after the Payment Deadline and none of the above can be applied – 50% Refund

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1. Website – [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://www.LMDopsunshine.com) – Read about all the upcoming trips, register for trips on-line, contact us
2. Office Phone – 610-435-9155 – Register for trips, Call with questions. Office hours are Mon and Wed. 11 AM to 3 PM. You may leave a message and someone will get back to you.
3. E-Mail Address – [LMDopsunshine@aol.com](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com) – Questions, Make a reservation, Update your personal information
4. Follow up any reservation with a check made payable to Operation Sunshine and mail to the office by the deadline at:  
Operation Sunshine  
1933 Hanover Ave.  
Allentown, PA 18109

5. When making a reservation, please be sure to include your name and phone number (**Cell Phone Preferred**) and the names of your traveling companions so we can be sure to seat you together. Also, include your meal choice should one be required.

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**WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ADD YOUR NAME TO OUR WAIT LISTED TRIPS AS WE OFTEN HAVE TRAVELERS CANCEL DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

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### **\*\*DAY TRIPS\*\***

**October 15, 2025 (Wed.) – Dutch Apple Theatre – A CHORUS LINE**

**WAIT LIST ONLY**

Follow a group of Broadway dancers on this heart-pounding, nail-biting, ensemble audition. As the competition heats up, the director asks each performer to share about themselves and what influenced their decision to become dancers. Watch as their individual lives transform them into *A Chorus Line*! Enjoy Dutch Apple's delicious buffet lunch and their fabulous dessert selections before the show.

**Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM – Return approx. 5:30 PM**

**Cost \$120**

**Payment Deadline: Thurs. Sept. 18, 2025**

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**November 6, 2025 (Thurs.) – Li Greci’s (Staten Island, NY) – AMERICAN BANDSTAND TRIBUTE & DANCE PARTY-WAITLIST ONLY**

New venue, but the same great shows as their sister location – THE SHORE CLUB in New Jersey. Listen to the music of the All-Star Band and dance the day away to the song and dance crazes of The Dick Clark style and era; The Twist, The Limbo, The Mashed Potatoes, The Locomotion. All that plus a great comedian. Enjoy a **FREE HAPPY HOUR** prior to the show, plus free wine and beer (plus coffee, tea or soda) during lunch. Please choose from the following entree items and **advise us of your choice at the time of booking.**

**SIRLOIN OF BEEF or, CHICKEN PARMESAN or FILET OF SOLE**

**Bus Leaves St. Timothy’s at 9:15 AM – Return approx. 5:30 PM**

**Cost \$125                      Payment Deadline: Thurs. Oct. 2, 2025**

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**December 11, 2025 (Thurs) – American Music Theatre – DECK THE HALLS CHRISTMAS SHOW**

**WAITLIST ONLY**

Check in at the decked-out St. Nicholas Hotel where we find our dashing dancers and merry musicians ready to “Deck the Halls!” Bubby Bubby bellhops and glittery guests make merriment in preparation for a visit from Old Saint Nick. This musical holiday adventure brings together friends old and new to celebrate the season with awe-inspiring performances designed to capture the hearts of the entire family. Buffet Lunch at the Eden Resort prior to the 3 PM show.

**Bus Leaves St. Timothy’s at 10:45 AM – Return approx. 6:30 PM**

**Cost \$130                      Payment Deadline: Thurs. Nov. 6, 2025**

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# *Apple Harvest Festival*

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

**28 W. Main Street Macungie PA**

**Saturday October 4, 2025**

**1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**



**Free – Hot Dogs, Popcorn, Apple Pie, Ice Cream, Drinks**

**Free – Games and prizes for children, Face Painting and Cake Walk**

**Basket Raffle – Tickets 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, 14 for \$10, and 30 for \$20**

**All Basket Raffle proceeds will go to the Emmaus High School Angel Network**

[www.gracemacungie.org](http://www.gracemacungie.org)

[#GraceisthePlace](https://www.instagram.com/GraceisthePlace)

[www.facebook.com/GraceMacungie](https://www.facebook.com/GraceMacungie)



## 2025 Basket & Gift Card Social

Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church  
535 W. Emaus Avenue  
Allentown Pa 18103

Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$5.00 for a sheet of 26 chances  
If you purchase tickets before October 25<sup>th</sup>  
5 sheets for \$20.00 (a \$5.00 savings)

We will have over 250 baskets and gift cards.  
Again, this year there will be a variety of **childrens' baskets**. If you bring your child, 10 or under to the Social they will receive a **Free** ticket for bidding on the **Kid Zone baskets**.

We also will be having a drawing for a special super Household Basket. For each nonperishable food item you bring you will be given a ticket for this drawing. The food will be going to our Blessing Box.

We will have baked goods, snacks, cabbage & noodles, homemade turkey BBQ, hamburger BBQ, hot dogs & drinks.

There will be a drawing for an outdoor entertainment set.



For more information or to have tickets held for you at the door call the church office  
Phone #610-797-4774.

**The drawings will be on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**\*You will be informed by phone if you are a winner**  
**Nobody will be allowed in the building during the drawing**

Baskets will be handed out on  
Monday morning Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Monday evening Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

# St. Andrews Lutheran Church

# CASH



## Fearless Fire Company

1221 S Front St. Allentown

Sunday November 2, 2025 1:00 PM

**Doors open at 11:30 AM**

19 Regular Games (\$100 Cash Prize each game)

Coverall (\$250 Cash Prize)

50/50 Raffle Special Games Basket Raffle

Food and Baked Goods available for purchase

Ticket Price: \$30 or \$35 at Door

**Ticket/Info Contacts**

**Lori 610-390-2107 Sharon 484-866-5827 Lorraine 484-538-7806**





*St. John's Lutheran Church invites you to our*

# FALL BASKET SOCIAL



***Preview Night: October 3, 2025 from 6 - 8 PM***  
***Event on October 4, 2025 from 10 AM - 2 PM***

Tickets may be purchased/placed BOTH days! Ticket pricing:  
1 sheet/\$10, 2 sheets/\$20, 3 sheets/\$25 (1 sheet = 25 tickets)  
*Winners will be drawn at the end of the event and contacted by phone.*



*50+ gift cards to win*



*Over 100 baskets to win*



*Take out food on the 4th*

**1028 Church Street, Fogelsville PA 18051**

**[www.stjohns-fogelsville.org](http://www.stjohns-fogelsville.org)**  
**610-395-5535**

