

the Voice parish newsletter

Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. —Philippians 3:20

In his book, *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*, David Graeber recounts a joke his mother remembered from her childhood. She was born in Poland.

There was a small town located along the frontier between Russia and Poland, no one was ever quite sure to which it belonged. One day an official treaty was signed and not long after surveyors arrived to draw a border. Some villagers approached them where they had set up their equipment on a nearby hill.

“So where are we, Russia or Poland?”

“According to our calculations, your village now begins exactly thirty-seven meters into Poland.”

The villagers immediately began dancing for joy.

“Why?” the surveyors asked. “What difference does it make?”

“Don’t you know what this means?” they replied. “It means we’ll never have to endure another one of those terrible Russian winters!”

Boundaries define us. The South Hills is a clustering of tightly packed communities with distinct identities. Road signs indicate when one is entering a particular municipality. Levels of status are associated with these places. Within each municipality, more distinctions are made; some streets are judged better than others. We intentionally divide ourselves.

In the church, all boundaries cease. We are one in Christ, believing our *citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ*. In summer travels, let’s make an effort to see our common humanity and regard others as fellow companions. One day, we’ll no longer be Polish, Russian, American, White, Black, Democrat, Republican. We will be in heaven to finally see that all the while we were children of God, saved by grace. *We are one in the Lord*. Let us live to unite, not to divide.

In Christ,

Pastor Doug Heagy



June, 2024

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church
975 Washington Road Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228





*We Gratefully Acknowledge
the Generous Gifts
With Which Our New Choir Robes
Have Been Acquired for the Praise of God*

Clif & Judi Arbes - In honor of those who provide the music each Sunday
Cindy Brown - In honor of our dedicated choirs and Director of Music
Noreene Brown - In memory of Frank Brown
Larry & Pan Bucher - In memory of our beloved parents
Sara & Tom Dougherty - In loving memory of Martha Webb
Tom & Lori Dowling
Diane DuBrosky - In honor of Terry DuBrosky-25 years in choir
Deby Elias - In memory of Mark Schumacher
Matt, Melodie & Luke Frankovitch - In memory of William and Norma Thoms
Chauncey & Magdaline Frazier - In honor of our wonderful choir
Dagmar Gerst - In memory of Louise Gerst, Bobbi Gerst and Dagmar Louise Gerst
Clarence Gourley
John & Normajean Graybill - In honor of the Graybill family vocalists; Jeff,
Delaney & Sky and our choir members.
David Hale - In honor of my mother Louise Hale
Lisa & Tim Honkala
Dave & Denise Hrinak
Elizabeth Keim -
Jennifer Kennedy - In memory of Martha Webb
Donna Laughlin - In memory of my husband Ed; In honor of my children and
grandchildren
David Loboda - In memory of David S. Boe
Nancy Mosesso - In memory of Dorothy Cowan
Sigurdur & Cheryl Petursson - In memory of Asta Einarsdottir & Esra Petursson
John & Marcia Pujia - In memory of Reverend Ron Roscoe; In honor of God
Sam & Sandy Sarnicke - In honor of Dr. Christopher Keenan, who makes all of
our hearts sing!
Michelle & Pete Schocker
Lynn & Dave Seiler
Rick & Laura Spickard - In memory of Jean Bomeli
Steinhauer Family - In honor of the dedicated church musicians
Mary Beth & Alan Trivilino - In memory of Bill & Norma Thoms and in their
dedication to our Music and Education Ministries
Stacey Tubbs - In memory of my mother Edith Mook
Tom & Lyn Ultsch
Carol Vogeley - In memory of Chris R. Vogeley (father)
Corey Nile Wingard - In memory of Nile & Betty Wingard
Valerie & Randy Wolfe - To the Greater Glory of God in a appreciation of Mt. Lebanon
United Lutheran's Music Program
Audrey Ziegler - In honor of the choir

MONDAY NIGHT STUDY GROUP THURSDAY MORNING STUDY GROUP

OUR CONGREGATION'S HISTORY

In preparation for the 100th Anniversary of our congregation in 2025, we will review our church history one decade at a time. Attend all the decade discussions or those that most interest you. Photos and other archives will be shared. Pastor Heagy will lead the discussions, using a history of our church composed by Jean E. Mason, who was a history professor at Duquesne University.

Monday: 7:00 pm- 8:30 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am – 11:15 am.

Monday, June 3	1920s – 1930s
Thursday, June 6	1940s
Monday, June 10	1950s
Thursday, June 13	1960s
Monday, June 17	1970s
Thursday, June 20	1980s
Monday, June 24	1990s
Thursday, June 27	2000s
Monday, July 1	2010 – 2024

All are welcome to attend. Bring a friend.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Your Congregation's Best Assets

Some time ago, I met with leaders from struggling congregations who wanted insight on how they could grow. The main event was an “asset mapping” workshop to help them identify the resources their congregation already had to invigorate its mission.

So, I'll put the question to you that I put to them: What assets does your congregation have, and why are they important to complete your work?

The teams from the congregations worked diligently and then presented lists that were remarkably similar:

- Money in the bank and investments
- Talented, motivated congregants
- Solid physical plant and/or property
- Good location
- Talented choir, band, or musicians
- Good pastor and/or lay leadership

Bravo! These are certainly assets that can be used to turn things around at every congregation.

More notable were the assets that all of the teams *neglected* to mention. They included:

- God the Father/Creator
- God the Son/Savior
- God the Holy Spirit/Sanctifier
- The Bible
- The Sacrament of Baptism
- The Sacrament of Eucharist
- The Word of God

What's wrong? The teams were looking at their congregation from a business model. Their lists would probably compare with those of restaurants or social clubs. Of course, all of the congregations actually did possess the elements of the second list. The problem was that none of the team members readily saw these sacred, holy assets as useful in accomplishing their mission.

Is it any reason why they were struggling? What attitudes would they have to change in order to turn things around?

How is your congregation doing?

--Rob Blezard

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The worship links to Face-
book & You Tube can be found on our website:
www.mtlebanonlutheran.org

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

Sunday's
8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Virtual Worship 8:30 AM Facebook LIVE

Posted later on our YouTube channel

The Word of the Lord

June 2	Second Sunday after Pentecost Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Psalm 81:1-10 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23—3:6
June 9	Third Sunday after Pentecost Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1 Mark 3:20-35
June 16	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4:26-34
June 23	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Job 38:1-11 Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41
June 30	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Lamentations 3:22-33 Psalm 30 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43

*The Liturgy may be viewed on our Facebook
page and YouTube Channel.*

July 15-19, 2024 9:00 am—noon
Register online at mtleboluth@aol.com
Deadline to register is July 5, 2024



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE: JUNE, 2024

If you cannot serve as scheduled, please switch with another server. If you cannot get a substitute call the church office at 412-563-0300 or email the church at mtleboluth@aol.com.

June 2-Crucifer

8:30	Ewan Keplar
10:00	Quin O'Brien

June 9-Crucifer

8:30	Max Bruno
10:00	Nico Provins

June 16- Crucifer

8:30	Easton Darcy
10:00	Isla Gentzel

June 23-Crucifer

8:30	Mackenna Cercone
10:00	Luke Frankovitch

June 30-Crucifer

8:30	Henry Keplar
10:00	Xavier Graybill



Food Pantry.

While shopping....Please continue to remember the ministry of the Food Bank at St. Michael and All Angels' with your contributions of non-perishable food, cleaning and laundry products and monetary donations. When making monetary donations, please make your check payable to *Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church* and designate your donation for St. Michael's Food Pantry [Your donation will be recorded and then forwarded.] or to the ELCA World Hunger ministries using a *designated gift envelope* in your pew.

GLOBAL LINKS
Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

Wednesday, June 5
10-12 pm

Volunteers Needed To Help Pack Surplus
Medical Supply for those in need.

Sign-up sheets have been placed in the narthex or if you are interested in volunteering. Please contact Sara Dougherty at 412-523-1499



WE REMEMBER in our prayers:

God of all Life, with the Psalmist we acknowledge you are around us on every side; you protect us with your power; your knowledge is overwhelming. By faith, help us to grasp that your Lordship is also over the realm of the unreasonable and the seemingly undoable. Widen our limited expectations and invite us, heal us, and stir us by your love until we experience the wholeness of your life. Bring healing into the lives of:

Craig Elias; Andy Kelemen; Linda Larkin;
Jennifer Meyer; Marlott Schocker, Viola Giehl

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the July issue of the *Voice* are to be submitted by Sunday, June 16. Articles may be left in the church office or email: mtleboluth@aol.com.

Mt. Lebanon Farmers' Market
(sponsored by the Lions' Club)
Wednesdays 4:00-7:00 PM
beginning **June 5**
in our parking lot.

Daily Bread Outreach Meal July 21



The meal with the poor in July will be a cookout including hot dogs, bratwurst, chips, watermelon & soda. Monetary donations are being accepted. Volunteers will be needed to serve the meal. Please see sign up sheet in the Narthex in the coming weeks. Thank you for your support



*I pledge Allegiance to the flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it
stands, one nation under God,
indivisible, with Liberty and
Justice for all.*

FLAG DAY JUNE 14, 2024

**Summer Camp is on this
summer at Camp Lutherlyn!**



Check out all the programs,
schedules, events & registration info at:

<https://www.lutherlyn.com/>

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod — 2024 Synod
Assembly will be held June 14 & June 15.
Pastor Heagy and Cindy Brown
will represent our church during the assembly.
Please keep our synod in prayer.

HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SUMMER JUNE 20, 2024



Summer begins June 20th. God's love for us
continues even as the seasons change.

Enjoy the outdoors!
Remember the church!

Thank you for your faithful tithes and offerings!

**Train a child in the way he should go, and
when he is old he will not turn from it.**
Proverbs 22:6



HAPPY FATHERS DAY JUNE 16, 2024



ONLINE GIVING

Is now available in association with

myEoffering

www.mtlebanonlutheran.org

WHAT IS myEoffering?

myEoffering is a service we've teamed up with to give you the ability to send your offerings online in the same way that many of you already pay bills and purchase products. We chose to use myEoffering because they are part of a trusted, Christian family-owned company, who have been serving the needs of churches for nearly 100 years. Their product is solid, secure, easy, and convenient.

WHY SHOULD I USE myEoffering?

Many of you already pay for most of your purchases electronically, whether online or with a credit or debit card. So we have decided to offer this service as a convenience to you - you can stop writing checks or having to remember to bring cash every Sunday. Simply log in to our service and set up your offering. You can set the donations to match your pay periods, and even send your one-time donations to the special offerings we may have from time-to-time. This new service allows you to give any amount, at any time, from home or on the road, with your computer or even your mobile device. Now you can control how and when you give your tithes.

HOW DOES IT HELP?

Online giving is the future. In the lifetime of our young people, we will see electronic payments overshadow traditional methods of paper payments. In order to position ourselves to continue doing the work of God in the future and to make it as convenient as possible to be a cheerful giver to God's work, we have decided to offer online giving to you. In addition to easier access to giving and more engagement with young stewards, online offering has many benefits for the church. It allows us to more easily track contributions for budgeting. It saves us from manually tracking those contributions every week. It saves us from large fees on check processing and allows us to more accurately forecast expenditures and needs.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Signing up is as simple as going to our church website listed above and look for the green computer mouse icon. That button will take you to the myEoffering page for our church. Simply sign up and begin giving online today! Or scan the code to the right with your mobile device to get started now.




SCAN THIS
CODE WITH
YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE NOW





Summer Reading

During the hot summer months– pick up a good book. Below are several suggestions with a Lutheran theme:




Luther and Katharina
by July Hedlund

Katharina Von Bora: A Reformation Life
by Rudolf K. Markwald & Marilyn Morris Markwald

The Hammer of God
by Bo Giertz **

House of Living Stones
by Katie Schuermann





Paul
by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

Blessed, God's Gift of Love
by Mary J. Moerbe & Christopher Mitchell

West With Giraffes
by Linda Rutledge



The Cost of Discipleship
by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Life Among Lutherans
by Garrison Keillor



Provoking Proverbs: Wisdom and the Ten Commandments
by David L. Coe

** One of Pastor's favorite novels.



Welcome To The Lord's Table



On May 12, 2024 we celebrated First Holy Communion
with the following young people and their families...

Leo Bucher
Nolan Erickson
Taylor Larson
Madelyn Nichols
Dylan Solomon
Elliott Solomon
Kyle Timmons

The prayers and joy of the Church are extended to them and to their families!

Congratulations!

On Sundays, May 12th & May 19th we celebrated the 2024 Confirmation Class as they made Public
Affirmation of their baptism. Congratulations to...

THE 2024 CONFIRMATION CLASS OF MT. LEBANON UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Max Bruno

Son of Nello and Katy
Baptized 04-2010

Mackenna Cercone

Daughter of Jen Cercone and Jason Cercone
Baptized 06-06-2010

Finn Darcy

Son of Peter and Kristin
Baptized 12-01-2000

Quin O'Brien

Son of Rory and Kelly
Baptized 10-24-2010

Samuel Wetzel

Daughter of Max and Cara
Baptized 03-20-2011



Sunday School Teacher Appreciation

Our last day of Sunday School was May 19. Many thanks to our dedicated Sunday School Teachers: Lizzy Koval, Jessica Porter, Jen Harlacher, Julie Nichols, Mary Beth Trivilino, and Claire Bruno.



In addition to our Sunday School teachers, we greatly appreciate all those involved in Christian Education. Pastor Doug led our weekday Adult Bible studies and taught both levels of Confirmation classes and our First Communion classes. Ann Ultsch and Mary Beth Trivilino assisted with Confirmation classes. Thanks also to: our Education Ministries Chairperson Melodie Frankovitch; Sunday School Director Mary Beth Trivilino; Advent Pageant Director Elizabeth Rheinfrank; High School Coffee Hour Leader Julia Nelson; Registrar & Cradle Roll Coordinator Normajean Graybill; Children's Music Leaders Carol Vogeley and Barb Heagy; Church Librarian Melodie Frankovitch; Kris Malia for office support; Service Crafts Coordinator Deb Hazlett; Bulletin Board Designer Cindy Zuch; and to all the parents who have helped throughout the year. Please take a moment to show your appreciation to all our dedicated teachers and volunteers! They have devoted energy and hours each week teaching our children, helping them to be *"Disciples of Christ or the Glory of God!"*

"SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP"

All are invited for a time of fellowship between worship liturgies.

Enjoy food, beverage, and conversing with each other in the Foyer or

Hope to see you there.

The Evangelism Committee is looking for volunteers for coffee prep and clean up - Sponsorship—and preparing the sweet healthy treats for this time together. Please see the sign up chart in the foyer. Thank you.



Congratulations 2024 Graduates!

Holden Darcy will be graduating from Mt. Lebanon High School. He plans on attending the University of Vermont studying Sociology.

We will continue to publish graduate news in the July and August newsletter. Send the information ASAP.

THANK YOU to all who dedicated garden plants for Pentecost Sunday to beautify our church property! Grateful thanks to the small team of volunteers planted them in the front flowerbeds.

Thanks and appreciation to:

Normajean Graybill
Sara Dougherty
Cindy Brown



Special thanks to Tom Ultsch who rototilled the planting beds in advance, making planting a much easier task!

Help with watering and weeding is always appreciated as the summer advances—stop by at your convenience. A hose is located to the left of the sanctuary doors.

Camp Firelight, July 15-19, 9 am-noon



VBS Volunteer Meeting

Teens and Adults!

Please join us for one of the two orientation meetings for VBS Week:

Light refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, June 2, 11:15-12:15

(Following the late liturgy)

OR

Monday, June 3, from 7-8 pm

Both meetings will be held in the Social Hall.

RSVP to: mbtrivilino@verizon.net or

frankovitch@comcast.net

Calling all volunteers!!

Sign up to help with decorating preparations for VBS, *Camp Firelight*, July 15-19, 9 am-noon.

No experience needed. Come and Have fun! Bring a friend.

Dates and times:

June 4, 5, 6, 13, July 13 5-7 pm

July 2, 5, 6, 10 am -1 pm

July 14, after worship until completion

Contact Julia Nelson if you want to help.

VBS DECORATING LEADER

PHONE/TEXT: 814-574-5689

EMAIL: jmnelson26@comcast.net



We need to feed our Campers!

Please help us provide our VBS kids with fun allergy-safe snacks.

Check ingredient labels to make sure they do not include nuts, tree nuts, or sesame seeds.

Look for boxes that indicate “School Friendly” snacks.

Many of these products can be purchased in bulk at Costco, Sam’s Club or Aldi. Please bring snacks to the Social Hall kitchen labeled “VBS”.

Looking for 300 snacks!

Feed the campers but please don’t feed the Bears!



Clip this VBS Suggested Snack Pack List before you go grocery shopping!

Buy in bulk.

Rice Crispy Treats

Goldfish Crackers

NutriGrain Bars

Skinny Pop Popcorn

Quacker Chewy Dippis Chocolate

Granola Bars

Frito Lay Variety Pack Chip Bags

Natures’ Bakery Fig Bars

Aldi has “**School Friendly**” snacks in bulk.

We will also need: Lemonade Mix and small drinking cups.

Thank you in advance for your generosity! Help keep VBS affordable for families.



Vacation Bible School

Ages: 4 and older

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church

Monday - Friday, 9:00 - noon

July 15-19, 2024

Suggested donation: \$10.00/child or \$20/family*

REGISTRATION

Family Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone: _____

Persons authorized to pick up children: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Grade Completed: _____

Known Allergies/Special Needs: _____

My children have my permission to attend & participate in MLULC VBS per Terms on page 2

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

I would like to help with VBS (adults & teens age 12 & up) _____

Please also sign the back side of this page.

For registration purposes: Age Group/ Crew: _____ Amount: _____

*Scholarships available if needed.

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School

July 15-19, 2024

Registration Form, *Continued from page 1*

Participation Agreement:

	YES	NO
My children have my permission to attend VBS at MLULC	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
VBS staff are permitted to provide First Aid to my kids if needed	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
My kids have my permission to be photographed for the church slide show & bulletin board:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
I grant permission to take photos/videos of my children and to use and to use these images in church newsletter and website. I understand that photos and videos will not be accompanied by captions or tags that include names or other identifying information.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Please note: We will follow health and safety guidelines and practices of our Church Council.

Please read and sign below:

Parents/guardians agree not to send their children to VBS if the children are sick or have fever.

LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church allowing child(ren) listed on this 2-page form to participate in Vacation Bible School activities, I, the undersigned, do hereby release, forever discharge, and agree to hold harmless Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, its directors, employees, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability, claims or demands for accidental personal injury, sickness or death, as well as property damage and expenses, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the undersigned and the above child(ren) while involved in Vacation Bible School. Furthermore, on behalf of my minor child(ren), I hereby assume all risk of accidental personal injury, sickness, death, damage, and expense as a result of participation in activities involved therein. As well as releasing the child(ren), if necessary, for transportation to and from the Vacation Bible School location, I, the undersigned, do hereby release, forever discharge, and agree to hold harmless Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, its directors, employees, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability, claims or demands for accidental personal injury in the process of transportation.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Camp Firelight Needs Supplies!

VBS ITEMS TO DONATE:

(for Decorating)

PLEASE PLACE THESE ITEMS IN THE NARTHEX BOX OR ON THE STAGE IN THE SOCIAL HALL.

Paper towel tubes
Cardboard boxes (large, broken down)
Red, yellow, and orange tissue paper
Brown packing paper
Blue tarp
Plastic tablecloths (brown, green, light, or dark blue)
Washable paint (brown, black, white, green)
Old spray paint (brown, black, white, green)
House paint (brown, black, white, green)
Duct tape and masking tape
White and brown poster boards
1-inch-wide paint brush

VBS ITEMS TO BORROW:

Items to be returned must have lender's contact information.

PLEASE PLACE THESE ITEMS ON THE STAGE IN THE SOCIAL HALL. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SIGN.

Child-size lawn chairs
Coolers (small to medium size)
Fishing pole
Canoe and oars
Hammock
Tent (small one person)
Xmas trees (9 ft. or less)
Battery lanterns (any size)

VBS ITEMS TO DONATE:

(for Crafts)

PLACE ITEMS IN NARTHEX BOX.

Stickers (nature or camping)
Black cardstock paper
White cardstock paper
Gallon sized Ziploc bags
Craft Sticks
Battery operated votive candles
Vellum paper (translucent)
Tissue paper (assorted colors)

Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School, July 15-19, 2024, 9 am-noon

During VBS week:

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – YOUTH AND ADULTS

To volunteer contact:

MBTrivilino@verizon.net or Melodie at frankovitch@comcast.net

Prior to VBS we need:

Help with decorating & setup – *various days, weekdays, evening & weekend shifts.*

Contact Julia Nelson:

jmnelson26@comcast.net

Available dates and times to help decorate:

June 4, 5, 6, 13, July 13 5-7 pm

July 2, 5, 6, 10 am-1 pm

July 14 after Worship until complete

After VBS we need:

Help remove decorations, breakdown set and cleanup, *flexible time shifts.*

Note: *Teens can earn up to 15 hours of Community Service!*

Food Drive for our Refugee and Immigrant Neighbors

Food will be donated to South Hills Interfaith Movement – S.H.I.M.

By donating the items below, you can give refugee families a taste of home, help them find comfort in something familiar and ensure they have a nutritious meal.

Most needed items for SHIM's refugee neighbors

Dried beans (kidney beans, chickpeas, black beans, etc.)

Lentils

Rice

Flour

Cooking oil

Sugar

Spices and seasonings (salt, pepper, garlic, ginger, chili powder, turmeric, etc.)

Diapers

This Food Drive is a joint project with our Congregation and VBS.

Please bring food donations to the **Narthex, July 14 - Aug 18**, or the **VBS Giving Market** in the Social Hall, **July 15-19**.

Why this service project now?

The need for food in our local community is greater than ever now. By providing culturally preferred foods that families eat, you are helping them survive. We are grateful to work with neighbors and agencies who care about our community and the people in it, and who offer immigrant and refugee supports. Together, we can continue to build a strong, thriving community where people of all backgrounds can thrive.

Thank you for your help!

Any questions, please contact Sara Dougherty at tidsjd@verizon.net or 412-523-1499.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” Matthew 25:35

Reflection on the Indoor Garden Experiences



During Lent and the Easter Season, the Foyer Café was transformed into two different garden experiences. **The Art and Faith Initiative** provided church members with the opportunity to follow the steps of Jesus through Holy Week and post resurrection appearances by using artistic interpretations such as paintings and photographs with texts. The intent was to ensure a spiritual and meditative experience that would enhance participants' Lenten and Easter journey.

Here are the responses we received:

“Reminding me of the Rev. Dr. Bruce Schein, who for 10 years led tours of the Holy Land and taught children in a Palestine school. Thank you!”

“...the children with Palm branches from childhood”

“Loved it! I learned some things about Jesus’ journey through Holy Week-very inspiring.”

“It has given me some context and reminded me that Jesus was indeed human like myself!”

“A thoughtful and thought-provoking presentation. The reality of the individuals taking part in all these final days acts encourages us to also take part and example ourselves as beneficiaries of God’s love, Jesus’ sacrifice of love. Thank you!”

“God as a loving mother.”

“I love to see – visualize in person – and the beauty with the flowers. Gives a sense of relaxing time to take it all in. Lovely display.”

“The visual and written word enhance the journey. It is also important to remember – every day is an Easter.”

We hope you have enjoyed the first of many “connecting” experiences. Talk with Julia Nelson and/or Melodie Frankovitch for more information and to share your thoughts.



I would like you to consider participating in a our online giving designed to simplify weekly giving in our congregation.

Electronic giving will enable every household or individual to make their church offering using electronic funds transfer or credit card. You may already be using online bill pay for your mortgage, car payment, or insurance premium through an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account. Many of you also have used your credit cards to purchase goods online through Amazon, eBay, or a number of other sites.

We have teamed up with myEoffering to enable you to use the same process to give your offering electronically from your bank account, credit or debit cards.

There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue uninterrupted.

You can participate in the electronic giving program immediately. Just visit our church website and look for the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you for considering this new giving opportunity.



JUNE 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Pentecost 2 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 11:15 VBS Volunteer Meeting	3 7:00 Study Group 1920's-1930's	4 5:00 VBS Set & Prop Building	5 4:00 Farmers Market 5:00 VBS Set & Prop Building	6 10:00 Study Group 1940's 5:00 VBS Set & Prop Building	7	8
9 Pentecost 3 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 11:00 VBS Meeting	10 7:00 Study Group 1950's 7:00 VBS Volunteer Meeting	11	12 4:00 Farmers Market	13 10:00 Study Group 1960's	14 Synod Assembly	15 Synod Assembly
16 Pentecost 4 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 7:00 VBS Craft Prep	17 7:00 Study Group 1970's	18	19 4:00 Farmers Market	20 10:00 Study Group 1980's 7:00 VBS Craft Prep	21	22 10:00 VBS Craft Prep
23 Pentecost 5 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 11:15 Council Meeting	24 7:00 Study Group 1990's	25 7:00 VBS Craft Prep	26 4:00 Farmers Market	27 10:00 Study Group 2000's 7:00 VBS Craft Prep	28	29
30 Pentecost 6 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship						





1 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Eastern North Dakota, Metropolitan Chicago, Metropolitan Washington (D.C.), Nebraska, Northeastern Ohio, Northwestern Ohio, Oregon, and West Virginia-Western Maryland synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

2 Thank God for the gift of the sabbath, which offers physical, mental, spiritual and emotional renewal. Pray that we will honor our sabbath opportunities and help others find times and places to rest and to attend to their own well-being.

3 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Upstate New York Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

4 Give thanks for the gifts, wisdom, leadership and faith of your immediate family members and neighbors. Ask the Spirit to embolden us in advocating for social, institutional and legislative changes that reflect God's boundless love for humanity.

5 "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works" (Psalm 139:14). Turn to our Creator in prayer for comfort and confidence when you experience self-doubt or feel inadequate.

6 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Central States, Central/Southern Illinois and New England synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

7 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Caribbean Synod, Delaware-Maryland Synod, Indiana-Kentucky Synod, La Crosse Area Synod, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, Sierra Pacific Synod and Southwestern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

8 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northeastern Pennsylvania and South Carolina synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

9 Give thanks and praise to God, whose power prevails over all evil and vanquishes darkness that can overshadow and frighten us.

10 Pray for Lutheran outdoor ministry leaders and staff as they prepare to welcome campers of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to faith-enriching summer camps, day camps, service experiences, wilderness trips and retreats.

11 Ask God to bless summer ministries, including day camps, community meals and vacation Bible schools, that they might impact our communities, deepen faith, introduce people of all ages to the gospel and care for the needs of our neighbors.

12 What do you fear? Share your worries with God, who is present, loving and attentive even when we feel helpless and alone.

13 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Grand Canyon Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

14 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Illinois, Northwestern Pennsylvania, Southwestern Pennsylvania and Upper Susquehanna synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

15 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Allegheny Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

16 *Father's Day* Pray that fathers will experience the daily joys of fatherhood and find support and wisdom for the challenges of parenting, passing along their faith, teaching compassion and respect, and encouraging and guiding their children.

17 Pray for peace, reconciliation and healing in countries and regions torn by conflict and violence, including Sudan, Haiti, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Gaza and indeed the entire Middle East. Ask the Spirit to be with those who suffer loss, trauma, hunger and displacement and that we will bring support, hope and love wherever there is suffering and turmoil.

18 Remember in prayer those employed in seasonal jobs and ask the Spirit to help us express our hospitality, respect and heartfelt gratitude for their service.

19 *Juneteenth* Today we commemorate June 19, 1865, when the last enslaved Africans were emancipated in the United States. We lament our nation's history of slavery, give thanks for freedom and justice, and pray for an end to racism and racial inequity.

20 Pray for community garden programs and volunteer gardeners as they recognize and serve the needs of our neighbors who live with poverty and hunger. Give thanks for our work together through ELCA World Hunger to address the root causes of hunger and poverty here and around the world.

21 Pray for the Spirit to inspire us and grant us wisdom in this time of study, reflection and deliberation that will guide the development of a new ELCA social statement on civic life and faith and the relationship of church and state.

22 Ask God to grant hope, stamina and healing to those recovering from the devastation left by tornadoes and severe storms across our country. Give thanks for our work together through Lutheran Disaster Response to provide relief and assistance to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and worldwide.

23 "Waking up, [Jesus] rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Be silent! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to [the disciples], 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great fear" (Mark 4:39-41). Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our trust in God in the face of every challenge and situation that tests our faith.

24 Pray for youth, adults and congregations preparing for the ELCA Youth Gathering, the tAble (for young people with disabilities), the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the Young Adult Gathering. Pray that their lives and faith will be enriched and inspired through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service and fellowship with Lutheran youth gathered from around the country.

25 Remember in prayer senior adults and those who suffer illnesses and conditions vulnerable to summer heat. Give thanks for community cooling centers, those who perform wellness checks, and first responders.

26 "Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. Let them extol him in the congregation of the people and praise him in the assembly of the elders" (Psalm 107:31-32). Give thanks for the Spirit gathering us in worship to praise God, reflect on the word of God, profess our faith, receive and affirm God's grace through the sacrament of Communion, and bless each other to do God's work in the world.

27 Our need for food and nourishment never ends. Pray for community meals, food pantries and food truck ministries that relieve hunger and feed our spirits.

28 Ask God to stir our generosity in response to Generation Zero-Hunger, a youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the programs of ELCA World Hunger.

29 Give thanks that our church organizes its global ministry and service around the theology and practice of accompaniment, walking together with Lutheran, ecumenical and interfaith siblings worldwide. Pray for our mutual relationships with global companions and promise to respond to changing needs as we do God's work in the world.

30 Remember in prayer youth attending the Lutheran Summer Music Academy at Valparaiso University, an opportunity for young people to live in a faith community, develop their musical skills and contemplate future careers and vocations.



New Choir Robe Installation

May 19, 2024

*O come , let us sing to the Lord:
let us make a joyful noise
to the rock of our salvation!
Psalm 95:1*

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

The Reverend Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Kurt Kusserow

Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

The Reverend Douglas M. Heagy

Pastor

Dr. Christopher Keenan, DMA

Director of Music and Organist

Mr. Larry Allen

Director of Music and Organist Emeritus

Mrs. Kris Malia

Parish Secretary



Vacation Bible School

Come join us this summer for:

Camp Firelight

A Summer Camp Adventure with God



July 15-19, 2024

9:00 am—noon

We welcome children age 4 through 5th grade and invite those older than 6th grade to participate as volunteers with the program. Please register by July 5.

A week filled with bible stories, games, crafts, and much more!

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Psalms 56:3

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