

the *Voice* parish newsletter

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR CANCER BRIDGES

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO) musicians are performing a series of chamber music recitals to raise funds for the inaugural Jonah Hart Memorial 5K. They will hold a concert in our sanctuary on **Sunday, August 11, at 7:00 PM**. Music Director Emeritus, Larry Allen, will be among the performers. Others include, Irene Cheng (violin); Ron Samuels (clarinet); Michael Debruyne (cello); Francesca Tortorello (piano); and Scott Bell (oboe).

Jonah Hart, the son of Chris Hart and Pittsburgh Symphony violinist, Lorien Benet Hart, was a vibrant 17-year-old when he was diagnosed with glioblastoma. He bravely fought his diagnosis for 13 months, passing away on October 2, 2023. Despite the impact of cancer on his body, Jonah continued to embrace all that life can offer until the end. He was a source of light, humor, and strength to all who knew him. Born in Pittsburgh on September 4, 2006, he lived with parents, Chris and Lorien, and big sister Abigail, in their Highland Park home and attended Obama Academy until his passing. He was a straight-A student and participated in the school's International Baccalaureate Program. His memorial Service was held on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at Temple Sinai in Pittsburgh.

The **August 11 concert** at our church at **7:00 PM** is the third in a series of concerts by Pittsburgh Symphony musicians to raise funds for Cancer Bridges, a local nonprofit that supports area cancer patients. All are welcome to attend. There are no advance ticket sales. **Donations will be collected at the door.** Please invite friends and support this worthy cause. We are grateful to partner with the PSO musicians, the Hart family, and area residents to make this evening possible.



Jonah Maxwell Hart
September 4, 2006 – October 2, 2023



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

August, 2024

THE MUSICIANS OF THE
PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENT

An Evening of Chamber Music



with

RON SAMUELS FRANCESCA TORTORELLO
IRENE CHENG SCOTT BELL
MICHAEL DEBRUYN LARRY ALLEN

AUGUST 11, 2024
7:00 PM

MOUNT LEBANON
LUTHERAN CHURCH
975 WASHINGTON ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15228

Donations Accepted at the Door

In Support of

All Proceeds to Benefit

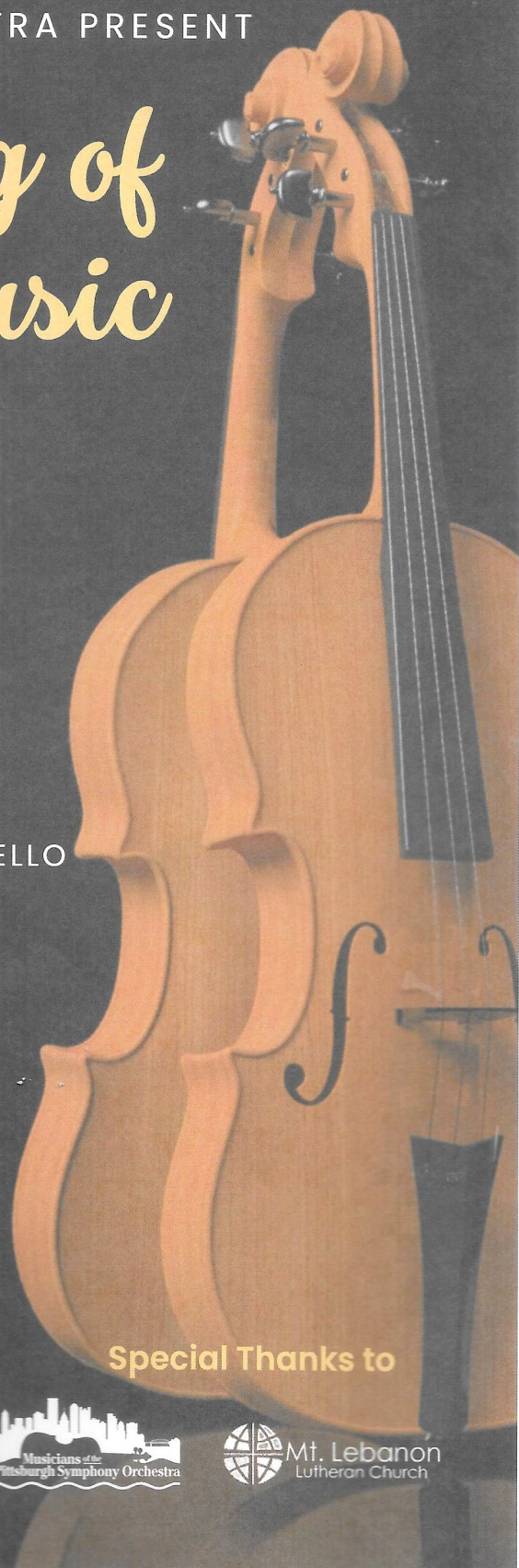
Special Thanks to



**Cancer
Bridges**



**Mt. Lebanon
Lutheran Church**



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The SAD news about nutrition

U.S. medical data present a real paradox: Though we spend more on health care than any other developed country, we are very unhealthy – including shorter life expectancy, the highest obesity rate, and high incidence of diabetes, heart disease and hypertension.

The reasons are complex, but many experts point to the unhealthy “Standard American Diet.” With lots of processed foods, saturated fats and refined carbohydrates, the SAD causes more deaths per year than smoking, and half of all heart-disease related deaths.

In other words, the food we eat is killing us. The culprits are the fried foods, the French fries, hamburgers, chips, donuts, prepackaged entrees, breakfast cereals, sugary soft drinks, pizza, candy, meat consumption and freezer-case meals.

The cure for SAD is simple: Eat less of the bad stuff and more fresh vegetables and fruit. When God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, they were given all sorts of fruits and veggies to eat (Genesis 1:29). So, as you eat more veggies, you can think of it as the Garden of Eden Diet.

August is the ideal time to load up on veggies. The summer harvest brings all the delightfully nutritious foods to your local farm market and grocery store. How healthy is your diet? To learn more, search online for “standard American Diet” and see what the experts have to say.

--*Robert Blezard*

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cena española

Join us for a delightful evening of fellowship and fantastic food at our upcoming Spanish-Inspired Adult Dinner Event in the Church Social Hall and outdoor courtyard!

Date: September 8th

Appetizers: 5:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Menu:

Appetizer: Charcuterie/Mezze Board

Main Entrée: Paella

Beverages: Sangria & soft drinks provided. Bring your own beverage(s) if you prefer.

Dessert: A traditional Spanish dessert

****gluten free & vegetarian options will be available****

You can RSVP by any of the following:

Contact the Church office by phone 412-563-0300 or

Email mtleboluth@aol.com

Sign up board in the Narthex

****Please RSVP by September 1st.****

Come savor the flavors of Spain with us! A free-will donation will be accepted.

We look forward to sharing this special evening with you. ¡Hasta pronto!

THANK YOU WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS!

We are grateful to our dedicated altar guild, ushers, lectors, acolytes, James Brentzel and the Evangelism Committee, and Jim Needles, who so willingly continue to serve during these busy summer months at and in preparation for our worship services.

Congratulations 2024 Graduate!

Elie Vannarsdall, daughter of Emily & Dave Aughton, graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School and will be attending Slippery Rock University majoring in Communications. Elie is the granddaughter of Randy & Valerie Wolfe.

*On your graduation, may you sense God's will
in your life as you seek his guidance
for the future.*



THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



- 1 You shall have no other gods.
- 2 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.
- 3 Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.
- 4 Honor your father and your mother.
- 5 You shall not murder.
- 6 You shall not commit adultery.
- 7 You shall not steal.
- 8 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 9 You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- 10 You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Synod Assembly News

The actions of the 2024 Southwestern Synod Assembly have been posted on the bulletin board in the hallway of education building.

Thank you to Pastor Doug & Cindy Brown for attending the Assembly.

RALLY Day will be September 8, 2024.

This is the first day of **Sunday School**.

Look for the registration form and more information in this issue of the Voice or contact the Church Office.

SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE: AUGUST, 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 Pastor Doug at [412] 926-5440; or email the church at mtleboluth@aol.com

August 4-Crucifer

8:30 Ewan Keplar

10:00 Milo Bucher

August 11-Crucifer

8:30 Max Bruno

10:00 Luke Frankovitch

August 18- Crucifer

8:30 Sam Wetzel

10:00 Xavier Graybill

August 25-Crucifer

8:30 Henry Keplar

10:00 Nico Provins



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

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

August 4 Time after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

August 11 Time after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 18 Time after Pentecost

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 25 Time after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69



Plan ahead!

Catechetical Classes Will Resume in September

Catechetical instruction in preparation for the Public Affirmation of Baptism, the rite also known as Confirmation, is scheduled to resume in September. This early notice will hopefully help both students and parents plan for the fall.

The days and times of Level I and Level II classes will be determined by the end of this month.

Level I classes focus on the Old and New Testaments.

An orientation meeting for Level I parents and new students will be held on Monday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Level 2 classes cover Luther's *Small Catechism*, Lutheran theology, and organizational aspects of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held in October. Look for more information in the September Voice Newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

Blessing of Backpacks....



On Sunday, September 1 at the 8:30 and 10:00 worship liturgies, our children and youth are invited to a blessing of their backpacks.. By this blessing, we honor God and affirm our children and youth as they begin a new school year.



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





WE REMEMBER in our prayers:

Great God, our healer, by your power, the Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave hope to the hopeless. Look upon our brothers and sisters with mercy and bless them with your healing Spirit. Bring comfort in the midst of pain, strength to transform weakness and light to illumine darkness. Especially bring healing into the lives of:

Craig Elias; Andy Kelemen; Linda Larkin; Jennifer Meyer; Marlott Schocker;

Daily Bread Outreach Meal



September 15th will be the next opportunity to participate by providing food or volunteering to serve the meal. The menu will be announced in the weekly bulletin in the upcoming weeks. We are currently accepting monetary donations towards this ministry. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex next month to volunteer to help serve the meal.



Mt. Lebanon Farmers' Market
[sponsored by the Lions' Club]
Wednesdays 4:00—7:00 PM

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The articles for the September issue of the *Voice* are to be submitted by Sunday, August 11th. Articles may be left in the church office or email:

mtleboluth@aol.com.



Dear Council Members:

Please have your committee reports for the upcoming Annual Meeting to the Church office by August 11th. Thank you. ♥♥

GLOBAL LINKS
Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

David R. Rosser
February 29, 1932 February 24, 2022
Lynette Lundberg Rosser
April 6, 1939 June 9, 2023

It has pleased Almighty God to call unto himself, his faithful servants, David Rosser, at the age of 84, and Lynette Rosser, at the age of 84. They are survived by their two sons, Matthew and Evan, their families, and many family on both sides.

A memorial service was held at our church on July 13, 2024, and they have been interred into our columbarium.

Our congregational family continues to remember David & Lynette's family in prayer.

Wednesday, August 7

1:00-3:00 pm

&

Saturday, August 24

10:00-12 noon

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

If you are interested in volunteering, please see the sign up sheets that will be available in the Narthex during the month of August.

Please contact Sara Dougherty at 412-523-1499 or tjdsjd@verizon.net if any questions.

"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.



Vacation Bible School Thanks!



We had an awesome week at VBS Camp Firelight! Forty-one kids had a great time with dramatic Bible stories, creative crafts, fun games, fascinating nature-science class, yummy snacks, and lively music!

This year's service project was to collect specific food items to give our refugee and immigrant neighbors a taste of home. Through this joint food drive with the congregation, we received 250 pounds of food! Many thanks to all who donated, and to Sara Dougherty for organizing the project and delivering the items to the Food Pantry at S.H.I.M.

We were blessed with the help of 50 volunteers who gave their time and talents to help kids learn to trust God in all situations! Many thanks to all these wonderful individuals:

Co-Directors: Mary Beth Trivilino & Melodie Frankovitch.

Music Director: Carol Vogeley, with assistants Quinn Duffy & Ellen Stohner.

Crafts Leader: Jessica Porter, with assistants Normajean Graybill, Liz Hoyson, Olive Skocik, Chihiro Brentzel, Chelsey Campbell, Julie Nichols, and Glen & Grace Reiner.

Science/Nature Teacher: Melodie Frankovitch, with assistant Matthew Campagna.

Bible Storyteller: Jen Kennedy, with assistants Derek Harpst, Prasuna Kharel, & Delaney Graybill

Games Leader: Luke Frankovitch, with Madi Harpst, Nico Provins, & Aaron Rai.

Snacks Leader: Debbie Lutz, with Karen Pfeil & Laura Spickard.

Media/Tech Director: Ashim Rai.

Photographer: Kenna Cercone, with support from Jen Cercone.

Puppeteers: Delaney Grabill & Aaron Rai.

Registration: Matt Frankovitch, with assistants Alan Trivilino and Diane & Larry Datillo.

Office Support: Kris Malia; *Custodial Support:* James Brentzel & Tom Ultsch.

Traffic Safety: Luke Frankovitch, Alan Trivilino & Larry Datillo.

Many thanks to all our **Crew Leaders and Assistants** who served as Counselors at Camp Firelight: Gabriel Provins, Isa Provins, Chase Lutz, Katie Harpst, Claire Bruno; with McKenna Coyle, Ashim Rai, Christian Brownlee, Julia Campagna, Maya Kashlan, Charlotte Nielsen, Quin O'Brien, Finn Darcy, Jaci Harpst, and Madalena Provins.

Special thanks to our *Chief Decorator*: Julia Nelson and her assistants who turned our Social Hall into a wooded wonderland with trees, fireflies and campsites! She was *assisted by* Chihiro Brentzel, Luke Frankovitch, Milo Bucher, Kenna Cercone, Juliette Kenny, Ellen Stohner, Prasuna Kharel, Aaron & Ashim Rai. Thanks also the following *who helped setup/take down tents and/or setup/break-down the set and decorations*: Jeff & John Graybill; Matt & Luke Frankovitch; Alan Trivilino; Jeff, Julia & TJ Nelson; and Ryan, Ashleigh, Dylan, Riley, & Ellie Solomon.

Thanks to *congregational members* for their prayers and contributions of VBS snacks, craft items, decorating supplies, and food pantry donations for our service project.

Special thanks to *Pastor Doug Heagy* for spiritual guidance and for leading us in prayers each day at VBS!

All of these talented people worked together to help kids learn to put their trust in God in all circumstances. Thank you!

~ Melodie Frankovitch & Mary Beth Trivilino

Rally Day! Sunday School Starts September 8

Join us as we kick off our academic year! Students ages 4 and up—come meet your teachers and classmates. The entire congregation is invited to participate in our Fellowship event to assemble Healthy Snack Bags for Daily Bread Ministries. This is our Day of Service for ELCA Gods' Work/Our Hands Sunday.

Schedule for September 8

8:30 – Early Worship Liturgy

9:35 am – Sunday School Families gather in Social Hall to decorate lunch bags and write blessings.

10:00 – Sunday School Students & Teachers are commissioned at beginning of Late Worship Liturgy

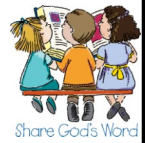
10:15 – Students and Teachers go to Classrooms for Lessons

11:15 – **Entire congregation is invited to Social Hall** for a time of fellowship and refreshments, to assemble the Healthy Snack Bags and write blessings.

Please see the flyer in this issue for more details and a list of needed ingredients for the Healthy Snack Bags. Donations may be brought to the Narthex throughout August. See you on Rally Day!



Sunday School Teachers, and Substitutes Needed



Sunday School Teachers & Substitutes Needed:

- Specific Needs: Pre-K/Kindergarten & Elementary teachers & substitutes
- Adults & teens 10th grade and older are eligible
- Teachers rotate to teach a few times a month
- Curriculum is very easy to use
- The kids are a lot of fun!
- Classes meet 10:00 am Sundays
- Contact: Mary Beth at MBTrivilino@verizon.net or call Church office

250 Pounds of Food Donations!

Many thanks to parishioners and VBS families who donated food items for our July service project. We received 250 pounds of specific food items benefitting our local neighbors in the refugee and immigrant communities. These were taken to the Food Pantry at S.H.I.M. They really appreciate all the donations of spices, beans, lentils, flour, and cooking oil. These can help provide a taste of home for refugees and immigrants. They also really appreciate the donation of diapers, which are always needed. Thanks again to all who contributed!



Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran
Sunday School 2024-2025 Student Registration and Information

[Please Print]

Parents: _____

Address: _____

Family contact email address: _____

Phone Number [s]: _____ cell phone # _____

Child 1: _____ Date of birth: _____ Baptized? _____

September Grade and School: _____

Allergies / Special Needs: _____

Child 2: _____ Date of birth: _____ Baptized? _____

September Grade and School: _____

Allergies / Special Needs: _____

Child 3: _____ Date of birth: _____ Baptized? _____

September Grade and School: _____

Allergies / Special Needs: _____

To whom should child/children be released after Sunday School if parents are not available?

Where/how can you be reached during the Sunday School hour in the event of an emergency?

Please add information for additional children in the family on a separate sheet of paper. Thank you.

*"Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them;
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs"*
Matthew 19:14

Social Ministries and Rally Day Service Project Healthy Snack Bags for Daily Bread Ministries

The ELCA marks September 8 as “God’s Work/Our Hands Sunday”—a day of service among congregations throughout the country. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.



Our Congregation’s Service Project runs from now through September 8, and it involves Sunday School families and the entire Congregation! We are once again collecting food and bottled water to fill Healthy Snack Bags for our friends at Daily Bread Ministries.

Parishioners are asked to donate food items from the list below that we will use to fill large lunch bags. These are due by September 1.

On Rally Day, September 8:

*Sunday School kids and families will meet in the Social Hall before the first Sunday School class to decorate the lunch bags.

*After the late liturgy (11:15 am), the **entire congregation is invited to the Social Hall for Refreshments** and to help stuff the Healthy Snack Bags and perhaps write a note of encouragement for the bags.

These Healthy Snack Bags will be distributed to our friends at Daily Bread Ministries in September.

Suggested items to donate for our Healthy Snack Bags:

Bottled Water
Beef jerky
Applesauce or fruit cups
Fruit snacks
Granola bars
Small packages of chips, cookies, rice Krispie treats, goldfish, etc
Cheese or peanut butter crackers (Lance or other brands)
Individually wrapped mints

The need for food at Daily Bread Ministries is greater than ever. This service project is a way for our Congregation to participate in God’s Work/Our Hands Day of Service and meet the needs our local community.

We are hoping to fill 100+ bags, so please donate what you can.

Please make sure items are individually wrapped, and bring them to the Narthex **now through September 3**. Thank you!

*“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink” Matthew 25:35*

Environmental Stewardship

“We see the despoiling of the environment as nothing less than the degradation of God’s gracious gift of creation.”

(ELCA Social Statement, Caring for creation, Vision, Hope and Justice, PT, !A)



The ELCA states “We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are deeply concerned about the environment, locally and globally, as members of this church and as members of society”.

In response to this, we at Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Church will do our part to be good stewards of our precious environment. The Social Ministry committee will strive to communicate ways that we can consciously do what we can to care for our planet.



Environmental Stewardship Opportunity #2

9 Ways to Reduce Plastic Pollution

The Southwestern Pennsylvania ELCA Synod’s Church in Society Committee cited a United Nations report estimating that only 9 percent of the world’s 9 billion tons of plastic is recycled. Most plastic, including disposable items discarded after being used once, wind up in landfills, oceans, waterways, including Pittsburgh’s three rivers.

The NRDC (National Resources Defense Council) gives us 9 easy ways to do our part to reduce plastic pollution that is destroying our planet.

1. Wean yourself off disposable plastics.

Ninety percent of the plastic items in our daily lives are used once and then chucked: grocery bags, plastic wrap, disposable cutlery, straws, coffee-cup lids. Take note of how often you rely on these products and replace them with reusable versions. It only takes a few times of bringing your own bags to the store, silverware to the office, or travel mug to Starbucks before it becomes habit.

2. Stop buying bottled water.

Each year, close to 20 billion plastic bottles are tossed in the trash. Carry a reusable bottle in your bag, and you’ll never be caught having to resort to a Poland Spring or Evian again. If you’re nervous about the quality of your local tap water, look for a model with a built-in filter.

3. Boycott microbeads.

Those little plastic scrubbers found in so many beauty products—facial scrubs, toothpaste, body washes—might look harmless, but their tiny size allows them to slip through water-treatment plants. Unfortunately, they also look just like food to some marine animals. Opt for products with natural exfoliants, like oatmeal or salt, instead.

Environmental Stewardship Opportunity #2

(continued)

4. Cook more.

Not only is it healthier, but making your own meals doesn't involve takeout containers or doggy bags. For those times when you do order in or eat out, tell the establishment you don't need any plastic cutlery or, for some serious extra credit, bring your own food-storage containers to restaurants for leftovers.

5. Purchase items secondhand.

New toys and electronic gadgets, especially, come with all kinds of plastic packaging—from those frustrating hard-to-crack shells to twisty ties. Search the shelves of thrift stores, neighborhood garage sales, or online postings for items that are just as good when previously used. You'll save yourself a few bucks, too.

6. Recycle (duh).

It seems obvious, but we're not doing a great job of it. For example, less than 14 percent of plastic packaging is recycled. Confused about what can and can't go in the bin? Check out the number on the bottom of the container. Most #1 (PET) and #2 (HDPE) plastic bottles and containers are commonly accepted by most curbside recycling companies. REMEMBER, Michael's Brother's Recycling accepts many items that are not collected at curbside recycling. Go to Michael Brothers located at 901 Horning Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. See all the items accepted listed below and on the bulletin boards throughout the church.

At this location, you can recycle:

Glass

Plastics #1-7

Christmas lights

Aluminum/cans

Metal

Cardboard

Below are examples of many hard to recycle items that Michael Bros will accept:

Disposable utensils

Cups/lids

Take-out containers

Clam shells for berries, take-out, etc

Packaging for things like electronics

Plastic caps-milk/juice cartons

yogurt containers

prescription bottles/lids

straws

coffee cup lids

flower pots (cleaned)

Bread tabs

7. Support a bag tax or ban.

Urge your elected officials to follow the lead of those in San Francisco, Chicago, and close to 150 other cities and counties by introducing or supporting [legislation that would make plastic-bag use less desirable](#).

8. Buy in bulk.

Single-serving yogurts, travel-size toiletries, tiny packages of nuts—consider the product-to-packaging ratio of items you tend to buy often and select the bigger container instead of buying several smaller ones.

9. Put pressure on manufacturers.

Though we can make a difference through our own habits, corporations obviously have a much bigger footprint. If you believe a company could be smarter about its packaging, make your voice heard. Write a letter, send a tweet, or hit them where it really hurts: Give your money to a more sustainable competitor.

Your Place. Your Passion.



Valparaiso University consistently receives national recognition
as one of the best in the Midwest.

5 UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES:

ARTS & SCIENCES • BUSINESS • ENGINEERING • NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS
• CHRIST COLLEGE — THE HONORS COLLEGE

EXPERIENCE LIFE AT VALPO

70+

MAJORS

100+

STUDENT
ORGANIZATIONS

21

DIVISION I
ATHLETICS PROGRAMS

100+

ARTS PERFORMANCES
ANNUALLY

50+

STUDY ABROAD
PROGRAMS

VALPARAISO  UNIVERSITY

valpo.edu

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran

Summary of the Treasurer's Report

June, 2024

General Fund	June, 2024	Year-to-Date	2023-to-Date
Weekly Envelopes	\$18,190.12	\$123,268.52	\$128,701.51
Plate Offerings	155.00	1,531.50	380.00
Special/Holy Day Offerings	5.00	3,195.00	1,285.00
Initial Offering		125.00	225.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	40.00	1,835.31	29,835.31
Total General Fund	18,390.12	129,984.02	160,426.82
Stir Into Flame	747.50	8,004.30	8,067.00
Designated Benevolence			
Lutherlyn Support (Sunday School)		20.00	
Disaster Relief			
St.. Michael's Food Pantry		631.31	
World Hunger		3,125.00	
Daily Bread Outreach	896.24	1,708.78	
Seminarian Assistance		925.00	

Fund Balances June 30th, 2024

General Fund	(3,094.40)	Benevolence	5,593.99
Stir Into Flame	262,604.18	943 Washington Road	154,013.24
Irene Schein Educational Endowment	327,638.25	Red Bird & future trips	1,749.63
Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Endowment	282,346.20	Fine Arts Fund	3,105.70
Memorial Fund	20,833.42	Pastoral Housing Fund	32,583.72
Flower Fund	329.81	Noah's Arch Repair	2,892.71
Columbarium Fund	(8,526.04)	Choir Robes	1,302.50
Education Wing Roof Replacement	(15,584.72)	Insurance Claim, Roof	15,331.76
		Total All Funds:	\$1,082,309.95



I would like you to consider participating in 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.



August 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Pentecost 10 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship	5	6	7 1:00-3:00 pm Global Links 4:00 Farmers Market	8	9	10
11 Pentecost 11 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 7:00 pm Benefit Concert—	12	13	14 4:00 Farmers Market	15	16	17
18 Pentecost 12 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship	19	20	21 4:00 Farmers Market	22	23	24 10:00 -12 noon Global Links
25 Pentecost 13 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship 11:15 Council Meeting	26	27	28 4:00 Farmers Market	29	30	31



1 Pray for those recovering in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean, the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico and the Texas Gulf Coast region. Pray that their faith and the care and support of neighbors near and far will sustain their hope and reassure them that they are not alone in this time of suffering. Give thanks for the support of congregations, synods and Lutheran Disaster Response.

2 “Elisha said, ‘Give it to the people and let them eat!’” (2 Kings 4:42). The food that Elisha intended for the hungry crowd wasn’t scraps or leftovers; it was from the “first fruits” — the first and best of the harvest that was offered to God. Pray that our generosity toward our neighbors in need will come from our first fruits for the sake of their dignity and well-being.

3 Remember our neighbors who are most vulnerable to hot weather, including older adults, children, people who are ill and those without shelter. Pray that they will find public cooling centers and neighbors offering relief.

4 Pray for the Spirit’s presence and work, which enable our words and actions as we stir hope, inspire faith in Jesus Christ and pursue justice and peace for all people.

5 Give thanks for the gift of Christian community, through which the Spirit unites us with siblings offering hospitality, encouragement, wisdom and skills for doing God’s work in the world together.

6 Be persistent in praying for peace, justice and reconciliation in the world, including in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, the Palestinian territories, Sudan, Yemen, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7 Pray that we will be mindful of our oneness — one body, one baptism, one Spirit, one Lord, one God and one faith — while also valuing our diversity, which strengthens and enriches our life together for bearing public witness to God’s boundless love.

8 Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner since 1999 and one of the oldest Protestant denominations in Christianity. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength, resources and encouragement for the work of sharing the gospel, serving our neighbor and growing the church.

9 Praise God, for God provides all that is good and sustains us, imploring us to use these gifts to care for our neighbors in need.

10 Praise God for deacons who are called to serve as ministers of Word and Service in diverse settings and contexts — congregations, special ministries, social services, parish nursing, schools and beyond. Pray that we will identify and encourage siblings in Christ as they discern how they might serve the church, our society and the world.

11 Give thanks to God for the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, the bread of life and son of God, and that this faith brings a new life that stretches beyond human understanding and imagination — eternal life with God.

12 Pray for teachers, school staff and administrators as they prepare to welcome students to a new school year. Ask the Spirit to inspire their energy, creativity, wisdom, compassion for students and enthusiasm for their vocation; promise to affirm those involved in the education and care of our children and youth.

13 “Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:31-32). What could be more relevant than Paul’s letter to the church in Ephesus? Pray that the Spirit will equip us to live by the gospel of Jesus Christ and be imitators of God in all we say and do.

14 Pray for congregational leaders and volunteers who will be launching Christian education opportunities, faith formation programs and community ministries for all ages and abilities this fall.

15 As we discern who should serve as leaders of our nation, ask the Spirit to stir within us civility, wisdom, compassion for our neighbors in need and faith that we are bound together as children of God, with abundant and diverse gifts for uplifting one another and resolving persistent problems and injustices.

16 Pray for high school, college and university athletes, that they will be safe and will embrace the values of teamwork and mutual care and respect.

17 “Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!” (Psalm 130:1-2). Make time today to pray from the depths of your inner being about those things that weigh heavily on you.

18 Give thanks for the sacrament of Holy Communion, in which Jesus Christ comes to us with grace, love and forgiveness, nourishing and strengthening us for doing God’s work in the world.

19 Observe the world around us and give thanks for the multitude of little things that inspire our gratitude, stir our curiosity, make us smile, remind us of someone we need to reach out to, or draw our attention to God’s presence in the world.

20 Remember children and youth who will soon begin a new academic year; pray that they are filled with anticipation and will feel safe, cared for and supported by their parents, teachers and peers.

21 “Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul,” wrote Martin Luther. “It is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.” Praise God for the gift of music in your daily life and when you gather for worship.

22 Remember in prayer pastors and deacons discerning God’s call to service and accepting calls to new places where they are needed. Pray for the Spirit to open their hearts, give them wisdom and strengthen their families during their moves and transitions.

23 Pray for the work of Sumud: For Justice in Palestine and Israel (formerly Peace Not Walls), a new ELCA initiative of accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising with our partners in the Holy Land and in the United States, that together we will find the justice required for peace in the Middle East.

24 Pray for youth and adults who experienced the ELCA Youth Gathering and related events, that they will bear spirited witness far and wide to God’s love and presence in the world and that the Spirit will continue to nourish their faith and identity as bold disciples of Christ.

25 “Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God!’” (John 6:66-69). Ask the Spirit to renew and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, especially when we grapple with the hard sayings of Jesus and wonder how to live by the gospel.

26 Give thanks for Sunday school teachers, volunteers, Bible study leaders and faith formation coordinators, who share their faith, time and gifts to build up the church and equip all ages for our baptismal journey of witness and service.

27 Give thanks and praise to God for young adults who served at Lutheran summer camps across the country, impacting the lives of children, youth and adults. Pray that they will continue to seek opportunities for ministry in response to God’s call for service and leadership.

28 Pray for understanding that the “whole armor of God” (Ephesians 6:10) is a gift from God to protect our faith in Christ when we are confronted by temptation and things that weaken our faith.

29 Pray for our siblings in Christ around the world who are baptized as children of God, and for our common journey of lifelong growth and learning as we witness to God’s mercy, care for others and celebrate God’s presence in our lives.

30 Give thanks and praise to God for responding to our cries for help — silent and spoken — in times of trouble, when our spirits are crushed.

31 Who or what has drawn your attention and inspired your prayers today? Ask the Spirit to embolden you to move forward and respond.

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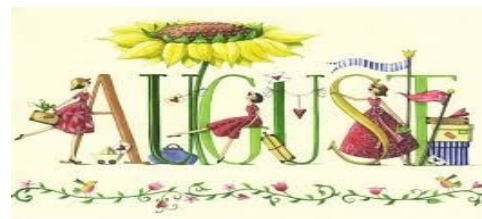
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The Reverend Kurt Kusserow

Bishop

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

The Reverend Douglas M. Heagy

Senior Pastor

Dr. Christopher Keenan, DMA

Director of Music and Organist

Mr. Larry Allen

Director of Music and Organist Emeritus

Mrs. Kris Malia

Parish Secretary



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 1

8:30 and 10:00 am



Rally Day & ELCA
Snack Bag Service Project
Sunday, September 8

More information in this issue and in the September *Voice*

Adult Dinner & Fellowship



Sunday, September 8

Time: 5:00 PM

Plan to join us for a Spanish Inspired Adult Dinner Event and good fellowship!

RSVP in the Narthex— or call the Church Office by September 1st.