

# the *Voice* parish newsletter

*Thanks be to God for our 100th Year!*

*Children are a heritage from the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a gift.*

--Psalm 127:3

Barbara and I are blessed with adult children—two in the area, one in California. Our first was married five years ago this month. We're joyous to announce the engagement of our second child, Jonathan. He's a high school math teacher; his fiancée, Hannah, is a cardiothoracic ICU nurse. They were college classmates, members of the track team, and reconnected after graduation. We're looking forward to their wedding day and life together!

The literal translation of Psalm 127:3 is, *Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward*. Many translations, however, including the one at the top of this page, tweak the Hebrew to make the verse inclusive of genders. They also change the word, *reward*, to *gift*, making clear children are freely received from God rather than earned by merit. Barbara and I are grateful for the gifts of our children; for the joy of watching their lives unfold.

Jonathan was a natural athlete and now enjoys coaching. With permission, I've included one of our favorite photos of him on the next page. While playing for the Latrobe High School basketball team in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, he dunked the ball during a game; the moment was captured by a newspaper photographer. Barbara and I have never jumped that high and haven't done many things our children have done. *Children are a heritage from God; the fruit of the womb is a gift.*

We're hoping for a family reunion in September; schedules make get togethers hard to arrange. Jonathan and Hannah's engagement has brought great joy to our family. Engagements are occasions to look back and forward. Photos help us to remember and look ahead for the days to come. Thanks for sharing in our joy over this engagement announcement. It's an honor to continue to serve as your pastor. Labor Day is near; mark your calendars for the church's anniversary concert on September 28. Let's all enjoy the waning days of summer!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Doug Heagy



August 2025

The grandson of a famous professional golfer from Latrobe appears in this photo. Name the golfer and identify his grandson by his jersey number. See Pastor Heagy for the correct answers!



# **100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration Events**

## **Save these Dates!**

### **100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary “Super Celebration” on our Campus**



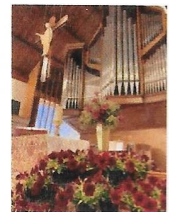
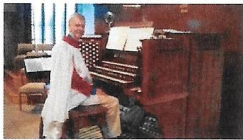
Rally Day **September 7, 2025**  
101<sup>st</sup> Sunday School Year begins,  
Social Ministries Project for All,  
Special Activities, Food, and Surprises  
All Activities begin at 11 am.



### **A Centennial Concert of Vocal & Instrumental Music**

**Celebrating 100 years of Faith & Outreach  
in Mt. Lebanon, the Region, and Beyond**

Sunday **September 28, 2025** – 4:30 pm  
In our Sanctuary – With Our Choir & Special Guests



### **Anniversary Celebratory Liturgy**

Reformation **Sunday October 26th.**  
Additional Information to be Announced.





## **Congregation will Celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary at September's "Super Celebration" on Rally Day!**

The entire congregation and friends are invited to attend what will be an unforgettable day of worship, service, and celebration. To commemorate our 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, we are holding a "Super Celebration" on our campus on Rally Day, September 7, 2025, following the 10 am worship liturgy.

The Celebration will include:

- Worship Liturgies at 8:30 and 10 am
- Fellowship in the Foyer at 9:30 am
- Sunday School at 10 am
- 100<sup>th</sup> Year Commemoration and Rededication at 11am
- "God's Work, Our Hands" social ministries Service Project
- Catered Meal, Cold Beverages, and Snacks
- Games, Activities, Fellowship, and a Puzzle contest
- Large Screen Broadcast of a 1 pm Sports Event

Come one, come all! Families and Friends are all welcome to join us for this all-congregation celebration! Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex later in August or contact the church office to indicate how many will attend.



# **RALLY DAY**

# FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

## Testimony of a Tither

It was many decades years ago when a change came over my life that has had a lasting effect for all these years. I became a tither!

I grew up in a Christian home during Depression years. Even in hard times, my folks gave \$1.00 a Sunday. As I went on my own, I was determined to do as well as they did. In 1948 I came to Kansas City to work for a consulting engineering firm for \$1.75 an hour. The man sitting behind me was a tracer, the lower level in an engineering firm, and he probably earned 75 cents an hour.

He was a very religious member of the Assembly of God. He knew that I was also a strong Christian and at times we would discuss religion. One day he mentioned that he was a tither. I thought, "How can he tithe on his pay? He has a wife and two children." It burned on my conscience for about a week and finally I said, "If he can tithe, I can too." I have tithed ever since and it has been one of the greatest blessings of my life.

Although there were always places that the money could go, I never felt that I did not have enough for me and my family. I also felt the need to tell others of my tithing experience. Why am I a tither?

In the first chapter of Genesis, God looks at all He has made, pronounces it good, and turns it over to humankind for its use. I am to use and enjoy fully all these good gifts from God. These gifts are best described in Luther's explanation of the first article of the Creed in the Small Catechism: "I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that He has given and still preserves to me my body and soul with all my limbs and senses, my reason and all the faculties of my mind, together with my raiment, food, home, family, and all my property; that He daily provides me abundantly with all the necessities of life, protects me from all danger, and preserves me and guards me against all evil; all which He does out of pure, paternal, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I am in duty bound to thank, praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true." What gifts! Can I do less than respond with thanks for His many gifts?

Some people think of a tithe as legalistic. For me, a tithe is only the beginning of giving. A tithe is not an amount, but rather a dedication and a commitment to give of our first fruits.

You recall that both Cain and Abel offered gifts to God, but only Abel's was acceptable since it was of his first fruits and his best. May each of us recognize God's many gifts and respond with thanks. A tithe is a good beginning.

--Robert O. Drange

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## THANK YOU WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS!

We are grateful to our dedicated altar guild, ushers, lectors, acolytes, Alan Trivilino 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.

## Synod Assembly News

The actions of the 2025 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.

## 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.



## SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE: AUGUST, 2025

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](mailto:mtleboluth@aol.com)

### August 3-Crucifer

8:30 Chase Lutz

10:00 Jack O'Brien

### August 10-Crucifer

8:30 Adam Timmons

10:00 Luke Frankovitch

### August 17- Crucifer

8:30 Sam Wetzel

10:00 Isla Gentzel

### August 24-Crucifer

8:30 Finn Darcy

10:00 Ella Mayer

### August 31—Crucifer

8:30 TBD

10:00 Gabriel Provins



The worship links to Facebook & You Tube can  
be found on our website:  
[www.mtlebanonlutheran.org](http://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 3 Time after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalms 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

August 10 Time after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

August 17 Time after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49-56

August 24 Time after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

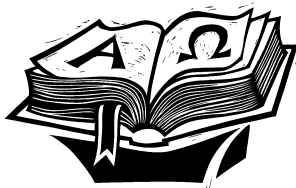
August 31 Time after Pentecost

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalms 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14



## Plan ahead!

### Catechism Classes Begin in September

Catechetical instruction in preparation for the public Affirmation of Baptism (the rite traditionally known as Confirmation) will resume next month. The 2025-2026 Year 1 Catechism Class will meet on Wednesdays at 4:30 PM, beginning September 10. The Year 2 Catechism Class will meet on Tuesdays from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM, beginning September 9. Class topics this year will include, Lutheran theology, our congregation history, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Contact Pastor Heagy at the church office (412-563-0300) to with any questions. Young persons begin catechism in Grade 7 but often in later grades.



The 2025 Annual Meeting will be held in October. Look for more information in the September Voice Newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

### Blessing of Backpacks....



On Sunday, August 24 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](http://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; Bill Young; Shari Ehrlich; Dave Young; Robert Hordage;

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The articles for the September issue of the *Voice* are to be submitted by Sunday, August 10th. Articles may be left in the church office or email:

[mtleboluth@aol.com](mailto:mtleboluth@aol.com).



### South Chancel Wall Columbarium

Interment in the columbarium is open to church members and their extended families, and the specific policy covering the use of and payments for the columbarium niches is available upon request from the church office.

The size of each niche is suitable for the cremations of one or two individuals. The cost of each niche is \$1,000 for interment of a single individual and \$1,500 for the interment of two in a single niche.

**Spaces remain available.** Please contact the church office to indicate your interest.

Dear Council Members:

Please have your committee reports for the upcoming Annual Meeting to the Church office by August 10th. Thank you. ♥♥



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

**GLOBAL LINKS**  
*Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.*

**Tuesday, August 12**

**1:00-3:00 pm**

**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 Allan Copenheaver or the Church office with 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

**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 Road Trip! Forty-four kids had a great time with dramatic Bible stories, creative crafts, fun games, fascinating science class, yummy snacks, and lively music!

Our service project was “Food 4 Kids”—collecting kid-friendly food items for Dormont Free Pantry. Through this joint food drive with the congregation, we received over 300 items of food! Many thanks to all who donated, to Deb Hazlett for organizing the project and to Dave Hazlett for helping Deb deliver the food to a very grateful Dormont Free Pantry, just in time for back to school needs.

We were blessed with the help of 45 volunteers who gave their time and talents to help kids learn that God is with them wherever they go! Many thanks to all these wonderful individuals:

*Co-Directors:* Mary Beth Trivilino & Julia Nelson

*Music Director:* Carol Vogeley, with assistants Ewan Keplar & Niki Harpst

*Crafts Leader:* Deb Hazlett, with assistants Grace Kurta, Elena Mares, Chihiro Brentzel, Normajeane Graybill, and Glen & Grace Reiner

*Science Teacher:* Julia Nelson, with assistant Max Bruno

*Bible Storytellers:* Katie Harpst, Martha Hudak & Jessica Porter, with assistants Derek Harpst & Delaney Graybill

*Recreation Leaders:* Jeff Nelson & TJ Nelson, with assistants Madi Harpst & Joseph Irani

*Snack Hosts:* Karen Pfeil & Debbie Lutz, with Laura Spickard & Liz Hoyson

*Media/Tech Director:* Ashim Rai, with support from TJ Nelson

*Photographer:* Hannah Nelson

*Puppeteers:* Delaney Graybill & Aaron Rai

*Service Project:* Deb Hazlett, with assistants Liliana Croom, Sage Hilton, & Leo Bucher

*Registration:* Pam Bucher, Diane & Larry Datillo; *Spreadsheets & Nametags:* MB & Alan Trivilino

*Volunteer Lanyards:* Normajeane Graybill

*Office Support:* Kris Malia; *Custodial Support:* James Brentzel

*Traffic Safety:* Jeff & TJ Nelson

Thanks to all our **Crew Leaders and Assistants** who guided the children on their Road Trip with God: Dylan Solomon, Chase Lutz, Claire Bruno, Katie Harpst, Ariana Klaber, Olive Skocik, Adrina Mangar, Christina Lingali, Ankit Tamang, Quin O’Brien, Aaron Rai, Ashim Rai, Jaci Harpst, and Anna Dwulit.

Special thanks to our **Chief Decorator:** Julia Nelson and her assistants who decorated our Social Hall and Education Wing in the Road Trip theme! She was assisted by: Olive Skocik, Grace Kurta, Caitlin Tetlow, Claire & Max Bruno, Milo Bucher, Aaron Rai, Joseph & Christina Irani, Ryan & Ashleigh Solomon, Chihiro Brentzel; and Jeff, TJ & Hannah Nelson. Thanks also the following **who helped setup/take down tents and/or setup/break-down the set and decorations:** Jeff Graybill, Alan Trivilino, Jeff, Julia, TJ, Hannah, and Joel Nelson; and Ryan, Ashleigh, Dylan, & 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 prayers each day at VBS!

All of these talented people worked together to help kids feel God’s continual presence in every aspect of their life journeys. Thank you!

~Mary Beth Trivilino & Julia Nelson

## Rally Day! Sunday School Starts September 7

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 7

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

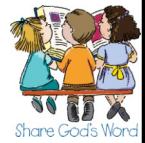
10:15 – Students and Teachers go to Classrooms for Lessons

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 Trivilino at [MBTrivilino@verizon.net](mailto:MBTrivilino@verizon.net) or call Church office

## Food 4 Kids

Summer/VBS Service Project to benefit  
Dormont Free Pantry

Heartfelt thanks for your generous response to Food 4 Kids! The amount of donations was truly amazing. The helpers at Dormont Food Pantry were overwhelmed, and they expressed appreciation on behalf of the South Hills families who use the pantry. There is a great need for food for children—so the cereal, mac & cheese, snack food, and beverages were very much appreciated. Your donations will stock the empty shelves just in time for back to school shopping!

We will continue to collect food donations throughout the summer for St. Michael Food Pantry also. Please put your donations in the Narthex closet bin.

*“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”  
Hebrews 13:16*





**Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran**  
**Sunday School 2025-2026 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 7 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 1st, 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 7:

\*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, 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 1st**. 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*

# 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](http://valpo.edu)





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.

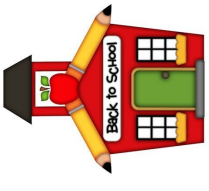
There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings 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 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Parking Lot Reserved MLPD Event 10-2:00
<b>3 Pentecost 8</b> 8:30 & 10:00 Worship	<b>4</b> 9-2:30 ESL	<b>5</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>6</b> 9-2:30 ESL  4:00 Farmers Market	<b>7</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10 Pentecost 9</b> 8:30 & 10:00 Worship	<b>11</b> 9-2:30 ESL	<b>12</b> 12-2:30 ESL 1-3:00 Global Links	<b>13</b> 9-2:30 ESL  4:00 Farmers Market	<b>14</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17 Pentecost 10</b> 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship	<b>18</b> 9-2:30 ESL	<b>19</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>20</b> 9-2:30 ESL  4:00 Farmers Market	<b>21</b> 10-12 Knitters Club 12-2:30 ESL	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Pentecost 11</b> 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship <b>Blessing of Backpacks</b> 11:15 Council Meeting	<b>25</b> 9-2:30 ESL	<b>26</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>27</b> 9-2:30 ESL  4:00 Farmers Market	<b>28</b> 12-2:30 ESL	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 Pentecost 12</b> 8:30 & 10:00 Worship 8:30 Live Virtual Worship						



**1** We are church for the sake of the world, celebrating the abundant life that has been promised by God and fulfilled in Christ's life, death and resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to guide and inspire the discussions, decisions and work of the 2025 Churchwide Assembly, that our church will proclaim and exemplify the grace we have in Jesus.

**2** Give thanks for those who participated in the Churchwide Assembly and ask God to protect them as they return to their faith communities.

**3** Pray that when our interest is drawn to specific issues in our communities and the world, we will not lose sight of other issues that persist but have slipped away from public awareness.

**4** Pray for worship leaders and musicians gathering for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., that their passion, creativity and skills for leading music will grow as a means of expressing faith and sharing the gospel.

**5** Give thanks and praise to God for the joy, freedom and new life we have in Jesus Christ and for the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God. Hallelujah!

**6** Pray for lasting and resilient peace where there is conflict and war in the world, especially in Ukraine, Russia and the Middle East. Pray that we will not grow weary in supporting and caring for those who continue to live in uncertainty and suffering amid violence, injustice and displacement from their homes and communities.

**7** Praise God that our new life in Christ empowers us to renew ourselves in the image of the Creator and to oppose and cleanse ourselves of anger, hate, slander, abusive language, racism, dishonesty, self-centeredness and greed.

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

**9** Pray for local, state and national leaders, that they will respect and respond to our neighbors on the fringes of society, including people who suffer poverty and hunger, who need shelter, who live with illnesses and conditions requiring constant care, and whose rights and protections have diminished. Pray for compassion, strength and persistent courage to advocate and care for our neighbors in need.

**10** Pray for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom in understanding the parables Jesus shared over two thousand years ago, and for insight into the admonitions and wisdom they offer us today.

**11** Pray for our missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission who accompany global partners in 10 European countries, serving in ministries that provide education, pastoral leadership, social services and care for vulnerable populations.

**12** *International Youth Day* Half the people on our planet are age 30 or younger. Pray for every nation to honor the gifts of young people, address the challenges they face and provide easy access to resources that contribute to their physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and economic well-being.

**13** Ask God to bless those who have chosen to use their gifts, faith and time in long-term volunteer service with Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Urban Servant Corps, Holden Village or other domestic ministries.

**14** Open our hearts and minds to see problems in the world as opportunities to encourage and care for one another, to seek new paths toward justice and peace, and to share the good news of God's mercy and love for humanity.

**15** "Go my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever" (*WOV* 721). Praise God for being ever present in our lives and the world — in times of turmoil, peace, fear, joy, failure and achievement.

**16** Pray for students attending ELCA colleges, universities and seminaries, and other institutions of higher education, that they will grow in faith, knowledge, wisdom and commitment to serve others.

**17** Ask the Spirit how we might align ourselves with the commandments, desires and priorities of God, the very things Jesus made clear to us through his life, suffering, death and resurrection.

**18** Pray for the church leaders gathering for the Ecumenical School on Governance, Economics, and Management for an Economy of Life in Seoul, South Korea. Organized by the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation and other ecumenical organizations, the school helps leaders to bridge theology and economics and to advocate for a global economic system that meets the needs of humanity and responds to the crises we face today.

**19** Give thanks to God that, through our collective generosity, our church provides grants and scholarships to support the ministries of individuals, communities, congregations, synods, and ELCA partners and companion churches.

**20** "Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:23-24). Give thanks that God sees all evil and deception in the world, and promise to be vigilant and discerning so that we might uplift our neighbors and please God.

**21** Pray for the work of Sumud, an initiative of our church that works for justice in Palestine and Israel, proclaiming that all humans are beloved children of God who deserve safety, security and dignity.

**22** Give thanks for the ELCA New Congregations ministry and for the 340 new-start congregations and ministries under development in the United States and the Caribbean, supported by local leaders and their synods' bishops and directors for evangelical mission.

**23** Pray for congregational leaders and volunteers who are preparing fall programs and community ministries to share the gospel, nurture faith, serve neighbors in need and equip people of all ages and abilities to do God's work in the world.

**24** There is no convenient or more suitable time to respond to the suffering of our neighbors. Pray that we will be mindful of those around us — near and far — and promptly respond with respect, kindness, generosity, sustainable solutions and concern for their short - and long-term needs.

**25** Pray for teachers, student teachers, administrators and other school staff, that their strength, knowledge, creativity and commitment to students will be nourished throughout the school year. Ask the Spirit to help us express our thanks and support them in tangible ways.

**26** "Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free" (*ACS* 1087). Lift up praise and thanks to God!

**27** Give thanks for people who play a significant role in your life, including those who inspire your faith, teach you life skills, influence your values, treat you with love and respect, and show up when you need someone to lean on.

**28** Remember in prayer children, youth and adults whose lives have been touched and inspired by outdoor ministry experiences this summer. Pray that they will bring back to their home congregations their rekindled faith, enthusiasm, confidence and commitment to love their neighbors.

**29** Rejoice in the daily care, support and sustenance we receive from God and our siblings in Christ. Pray that we, in turn, will freely share the same with our neighbors.

**30** Each of us has a unique faith story to tell. Ask the Spirit to help us find our own way of describing our faith journey — how God works through us and how Jesus Christ defines our lives.

**31** Ask the Spirit for the faith needed to be both confident and humble. Promise to focus on neighbors in need and to resist personal desires for reward, status or advantage.



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**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**

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

### **Rally Day & ELCA ELCA Snack Bag Service Project Sunday, September 7**

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

## **100th Year Anniversary “Super Celebration” on our Campus**

**Rally Day September 7, 2025**

101st Sunday School Year begins,

Social Ministries Project for All,

Special Activities, Food, and Surprises

All Activities begin at 11 am.

## **A Centennial Concert of Vocal & Instrumental Music Celebrating 100 year of Faith & Outreach in Mt. Lebanon, the Region, and Beyond**

**Sunday, September 28, 2025—4:30 pm**

**In our Sanctuary—With Our Choir & Special Guests**