

# CHURCH KEY

A NEWSLETTER THAT OPENS PEOPLE  
TO THE MINISTRIES OF



ZION'S UNION  
CHURCH MAXATAWNY

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**329 Church Road  
Kutztown, Pennsylvania  
610-683-7485**

*a Federated Church of*  
**The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
*and*  
**The United Church of Christ**

**July/August  
2019**

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## REMINDERS

- ◆ The cost for a vase of flowers is \$18.00 and the cost to be a bulletin sponsor is \$8.00. Payment may be given to Jane Warmkessel or put the money in one of the flower/bulletin envelopes found in the Gathering Area and place in the offering plate.
- ◆ Any checks written out for the offering, altar flowers, or bulletins should be made payable to **Zion's Union Church Maxatawny**.
- ◆ **Any checks for the cemetery should be made out to Maxatawny Zion Cemetery Company, Inc. not to the church.**
- ◆ We have DVDs of the worship services available for use at home. Contact the church office if you would like to borrow one.
- ◆ Let the church office know if you have been admitted to the hospital. The hospitals **DO NOT** notify the church if members have been hospitalized.
- ◆ Zion's Union Church Maxatawny's website is [www.zionsunion.org](http://www.zionsunion.org). Check out our website.
- ◆ Zion's has a prayer chain. If you would like to add a name to the Prayer Chain call Marion Angstadt at 610-683-3918.
- ◆ Sports cleats are not allowed in the church.
- ◆ After church refreshments should be kept on the first floor of the church.

## THE PASTOR'S PAGE



*"One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity."*

— Albert Einstein

On June 16<sup>th</sup> our congregation celebrated the festival of the Holy Trinity (also known as "Trinity Sunday"). The festival of Holy Trinity is a unique festival on the church's calendar because, unlike other festivals, it does not celebrate an event in the life of Christ, but a *theological doctrine*. It celebrates the mystery of God, whose true nature is ultimately beyond human comprehension. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity has been called the most complex theological doctrine of any religion. This doctrine attempts to explain something that is ultimately unexplainable—the innermost nature of God.

Anthropologists have theorized that one of the things that makes human beings religious is that we are innately curious. Scientists, theologians and philosophers are some of the most curious people of all (not curious as in "odd," but curious as in "inquisitive"!), and they all deal in some way with the ultimate questions of the nature of existence. The riddle of existence is surely the greatest mystery of all. How did we get here? Why does anything exist at all?

As any of you who have ever raised children know, children are innately curious and love to ask lots of questions (sometimes to the point of driving parents crazy!). Children seem to be created by God with what Einstein called a "holy curiosity." I was certainly a curious child. In church I was taught that God created everything, and sometime around the age of eight or nine I asked my mother, "If God created everything, then where did God come from?" My mother responded with what is probably the stock answer to this question: "God always was and always will be."

Her answer knocked my socks off! I didn't have any problem with the "always will be" part; it wasn't too difficult to imagine God existing forever. It was the "always *was*" part that completely boggled my young mind. No matter how hard I tried, I just could not imagine anything—even God—not having a beginning. I may have been one strange little kid, but I can actually remember lying awake in bed for many nights after that trying to figure out how God could have always existed without a beginning. It just seemed that even God had to come from somewhere! I speculated that perhaps someone else created God (since Jesus called God "Father," I reasoned that maybe Jesus had a

Grandfather too!). But I soon realized that wouldn't solve the problem, for where would God's Father have come from? Since I simply couldn't imagine anything, even God, just popping into existence out of nothing, I was soon forced to accept that God having always existed without a beginning was probably the only solution.

When we talk about the mysteries of God and the mysteries of the Bible, how God could have always existed without a beginning is #1 on my list! Just thinking about it sends shivers down my spine. But I've long given up trying to understand how such a thing is possible. I've finally reached the conclusion that some things are just beyond human comprehension. As with many things pertaining to the nature of God, St. Paul's words from 1 Corinthian will have to suffice: "Lo! I tell you a mystery" (1 Cor. 15:51).

I'm certainly glad God gave us a church in which to puzzle over the big questions of life. The church is (or at least should be!) the perfect place for those who have a "holy curiosity."

Still puzzling things out,

Pastor Jeff

**JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER WORSHIP**

July 7	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
July 14	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
July 21	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
July 28	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
August 4	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
August 11	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
August 18	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
August 25	SS Picnic & Rally Day at Longswamp Park 10:00 A.M.		
September 1	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 8	13 <sup>th</sup> Pentecost/Mortgage Cele.	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 15	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 22	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 29	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15

## CHURCH DOORS

As part of our on-going commitment to providing a safe environment to joyfully worship the Lord, we will be keeping the front doors locked on Sunday mornings from 9:15 A.M. on. Greeters will be on duty to open the doors and welcome you to your morning worship. This recommendation came out of the intruder training by the Kutztown Police Department. Thank you, everyone, for your cooperation and understanding.

## KUTZTOWN'S 2019 RELAY FOR LIFE EVENT



Thank you to all who donated money, purchased luminary, supported our fundraisers, set up and torn down the tent, served as our breakfast crew on Saturday morning, donated items/money for the breakfast items, donated hair, walked the track, test drove the Ford vehicles, or played any part in the 2019 Relay for Life in support of the American Cancer Society. A special thank you to Connor O'Neil, Activities Chair for the Relay. Great job Connor! Zion's Relay for Life Team has raised over \$6,500 so far! Your donations and time given help support cancer patients, continued research, and give HOPE for the many people that continue to fight the battle.

## INGATHERING

On the first Sunday of each month the Mission Outreach Committee will continue to collect items to fill bags with food staples for needy children and their families in the Kutztown, Brandywine, and Fleetwood School Districts. Please participate by dropping off non-perishable items from the list below in the container provided in the Gathering Area.



single serve size macaroni and cheese	peanut butter	canned pasta
single serve size applesauce	canned tuna	canned soup
fruit cups	granola bars	fruit snacks

## SUMMER MUSIC

Anyone interested in singing or playing instruments for the summer while the choir takes a break, see Theresa.

# STRAWBERRY & ICE CREAM FESTIVAL

A BIG thank you to everyone who supported the Strawberry and Ice Cream Festival by your help, your donations, or your attendance. It was great to see so many new faces.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of **July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The closing program will be **August 4<sup>th</sup>** during the 10:15 A.M. service. **A sign-up sheet is included in the newsletter.** If you are interested in helping, see Tara Berger. **PLEASE NOTE: All VBS volunteers 18 and older MUST have current Criminal and Child Abuse clearances done.**



## BLOOD DRIVE

The Blood Mobile will be at Zion's on **Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>** from 3:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Watch for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board on the second floor by the stairs starting in July. Stop by the church or call the church office to sign up. Information sheets are available in the church office.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC AND RALLY DAY



The Sunday School Picnic and Rally held on Sunday, **August 25<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 Longswamp Park (upper pavilion).



Day will be A.M. at the Entertainment

will be Puppet & Story Works. Bring your lawn chairs. Lunch will be served at noon. The Sunday School provides hot dogs and beverages. You must provide anything else you would like to eat. Games begin after lunch.

## CHOIR NEWS

No choir practice during the summer. Sr. Choir will resume practice on **September 5<sup>th</sup>**. The Choir picnic will be **September 29<sup>th</sup>** at Theresa's house.

# OUR GRADUATES



On Sunday, June 16, 2019, Zion's Union Church Maxatawny honored our graduates for the year 2019 including December 2018 graduates. Congratulations graduates!

## KUTZTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

*Dane C. Fegely*, son of Heath and Stacey Fegely. He will attend Kutztown University majoring in Business and Marketing.

*Emma G. Heffner*, daughter of Jarrod Heffner and Tracy Heffner. She will attend St. Joseph's University majoring in Political Science.

## FLEETWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

*Trevor C. Gilfert*, son of Tammy Gilfert. He will attend Penn State majoring in mechanical engineering.

## BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

*Amanda S. Noll*, daughter of Judy Noll and Randy Noll. She will attend Lehigh Carbon Community College majoring in History.

## PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL

*Ashley N. Korutz*, daughter of James and Bonnie Korutz. She will attend Lehigh Carbon Community College majoring in EMT or Police Administration.

*Johnathan W. Korutz*, son of James and Bonnie Korutz. He will become a linemen apprentice.

## PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

*Rachel H. Fegely*, daughter of Kevin and LaRee Fegely, major in Communication Sciences and Disorders and a minor in Human Development and Family Studies. Attending East Stroudsburg University in fall for her masters in Speech-Language Pathology.

## MORAVIAN COLLEGE

*Jonah M. Arndt*, daughter of Lori Arndt and Troy Arndt, B.A. in History, Minor of Medieval Studies, Minor in English. Taking some time off to investigate graduate programs.

## CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA: COLUMBUS SCHOOL OF LAW


*Shanna Mason*, Juris Doctorate (Law Degree). Studying to take the PA Bar Exam in July.

## LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE & NORThAMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Krista M. Witman*, daughter of Bill and Sharon Witman, degree in Veterinary Technician. Working at Silver Maple Veterinary Clinic.

## WOMEN IN ZION

*A group of Christian women in service, mission, and study for the benefit of all.  
Meetings are open to all women of the congregation.*

July 8	1 P.M. Short meeting & service Project – Blanket Ministry.	
August 12	1 P.M. Meeting and Bible study led by Loretta Flicker at 1:00 P.M.	
September 9	1 P.M. Meeting & Fun Program “Fall in Love with Fall”.	

*For more information contact Linda Ballew-Johnson  
(484-553-1981) or Loretta Flicker (610-683-3627).*

## MISSION OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN BELIZE, SOUTH AMERICA

Jamie Garbutt, a missionary in Belize, South America, asked for our prayers for extremely needy children who live in the mission led by Pastor Stephen Post. The names of the children to be prayed for are: Susie Westby, Myrtle Tracy, Ashanti Obrien, Orlando Jackson, and Stephanie Logan. There are other children at the mission, but these children have immediate, urgent needs. Pastor Post had written nearly 100 letters to other pastors asking for their prayers, but none responded. We can let the pastor and missionary know we at Zion's are praying for those children by emailing them at [goodshepherdbelize@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdbelize@gmail.com). In return the children will send a colored picture each month done by one of the children for whom we are praying. **Members of Women In Zion are hoping you will join them in this effort.**

## GOOD NEWS COMMITTEE

The mentoring program organized by the committee to welcome visitors and new members continues to develop with the following team of congregational members: Enos Bleiler, Linda Ballew-Johnson, Kevin and LaRee Fegely, Loretta Flicker, Tim and Sue Haas, Jim and Mary Laub, Sharon Leiby, Dave and Ellie Merkel, Steve and Cindy O'Neil, and Richard and Jane Warmkessel. Members interested in joining this "welcome wagon" group are invited to place a note in the Good News mailbox. The team will offer assistance to acquaint visitors and new members by spreading the "Good News" about Zion's.



## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

*Youth Group meetings are open from age 10.  
Schedules are on the upstairs bulletin board.*



### Activity Schedule:

July 18	Help at Friend, 4:30 to 7:30 P.M. Sign up on Sunday School bulletin board.
July 27	Swimming aerobics with Peggy, 10:30 A.M., Macungie Pool.
August	Canoe trip, more information to follow.

*Watch for a new schedule in September.*

### Offering Schedule:

July 7	Jewel Karaisz and Lexi Webb
July 14	Adam Noll and Madison Held
July 21	Anthony Blanchard and Zachary Haas
July 28	Jonathan Weidman and Katelyn DeLong
August 4	Sydney Sheetz and Ethan Weidman
August 11	Caleb Krause and Cayden Ciccone-Haas
August 18	Nick Perella and Kelly Leiby
August 25	Sunday School Picnic & Rally Day
September 1	Connor O'Neil and Sarah Grim
September 8	Dane Fegely and Carson Sheetz
September 15	Gaby Webb and Ashley DeLong
September 22	Andrew Haas and Archer Scaffidi
September 29	Maisy Kellum and Emma Heffner

**TO ALL CHURCH YOUTH AGES 12 AND UP** – Our weekend camp has been scheduled for **October 25<sup>th</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup>**. Please mark your calendars! More information will follow later.

## CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Cancer Support Group will meet the second Monday of the month at 6:30 P.M. See Loretta Flicker for more information.

## SCRABBLE

Scrabble will meet the third Monday of the month at 1:30 P.M. at the Lutheran Home in the social area near Sylvia's room. See Ellie Merkel if interested.

## SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **July 22<sup>nd</sup>, August 26<sup>th</sup>, and September 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 12 noon. Persons attending should bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Games will provide entertainment for the afternoon. Guests are welcome.



## ADULT FELLOWSHIP POT LUCK/MUSIC NIGHT

On **July 20<sup>th</sup>**, the Adult Fellowship Committee will be hosting a night of food and music. We will begin with a Pot Luck Dinner at 5:30 P.M., followed by entertainers, Michael and Linda Hertzog at 6:30 P.M. Mike is a local musician who leads the “Mike Hertzog and The Blue Mountain Gang” band. He and his wife Linda also perform as a duo singing gospel, bluegrass, and country music. It will be a perfect way to spend a summer night. We will be requesting \$5 per person, payable at sign-up, to defray the cost of the entertainers. Please plan on joining us and feel free to invite your friends. We encourage you to come for the meal but attendance to the show only is also an option. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the upstairs Bulletin Board in mid-June.



## FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear Zion's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$275.00 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders. Your gift ensures that students at ELCA seminaries can answer the call to leadership. By making their education more affordable, you are helping future ministers attend seminary. Thank you for your commitment to the education and development of future leaders of our church.



In Christ,  
Gabi Aelabouni, Director

Thank you for helping me through my confirmation for the past two years. I really enjoyed it! Confirmation Sunday was a special day in my spiritual pilgrimage.

Thanks,  
Ashley DeLong

## PRAYER SHAWL



Comforting wraps are still available to all who are in need. Please alert the church office or talk to Loretta Flicker or Karen Howard if you or someone you know would benefit from this ministry.

## CHURCH BOARD MEETING

**June 3, 2019**

1. Six confirmands have met all requirements and have been approved for confirmation. They are Ashley DeLong, Sarah Grim, Andrew Haas, Maisy Kellum, Julia Perella, and Jonah Shorette.
2. The board has approved the sale of the old wooden chairs.
3. Tickets for the Mortgage Celebration will go on sale July 28<sup>th</sup>.
4. Property Committee is getting estimates for damages discovered during an inspection of the original building.
5. Seeders and Sow On – Reminding the congregation to pardon our dust as the area outside the church entry is redesigned and revamped. Get ready for a new look and brand new plantings in the fall.

## D.E.A.R. - NEIGHBORHOOD SHEPHERD PROGRAM

The recruitment of shepherds is underway. We will begin this program once all local areas are represented. Distant members will be included through extensions of their local family members group or neighborhood.

## CALLING ALL GEEKS!

The Good News Committee needs help developing calendars that download to smartphones and tablets. What kind of help? None of us know how to do it! So, if you are able and willing to take on a challenge like this, contact Linda Ballew-Johnson either at church or by phone 484-553-1981.

**Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment  
with the Lord and keep it.**

—Corrie ten Boom

## **MYSTERY MEMBERS**

**Meet our mystery couple for the months of July and August.**

Coincidentally, both were born in Allentown. Her family home was in an alley and she enjoyed running around with the neighborhood children. He lived in a different area of Allentown. He remembers going to Lewes, Delaware and also along the St. Lawrence River in New York State with his parents on fishing trips.

She attended Allentown Public Schools until ninth grade when her family moved to Fullerton where she graduated from Whitehall High School. She is also a graduate of Muhlenberg College and has a Master's Degree from Lehigh University. He is a graduate of Allentown High School.

They were married in 1991 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Allentown. She loved the bouquet that she received from her new husband so much that she kept it and looked at it as they went to their honeymoon destination, the inn in Starlight, PA.

She worked as a teacher for 29 years in the Whitehall School District where she taught German for two years and fifth grade for the remainder of the time. She also did medical transcription for four years. He was a tool and die maker for three different companies during his employment years and after retirement he drove a limousine for several years.

She has a brother and he had a half-brother who was killed as a soldier in World War II.

Both were ham radio operators and it came in quite handy at one point during her teaching years. She had laryngitis and could not talk. However, she was able to talk to her husband in Morse code and had him call her assistant principal. He continues as a radio ham but she has since retired from it. They both enjoy photography, especially of nature (we have seen some of their rainbow photos), and he just won a second prize in the Senior Arts Festival. She also likes making silver jewelry.

They have always had cats as pets. At the present time they have four. A bedraggled little kitten showed up last year and they raised it for a while and took it to the vet but finally took it to a shelter. Happily it now has a forever home.

He made two trips to Honduras many years ago, one for helping to build a church and the other to set up a partnership between two UCC Synods. They were members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Allentown, then came to Zion, then belonged to several other Berks churches, then returned to Zion Union and we are happy to have them back.

**You have two months to decide who they are.**

## DID YOU KNOW

- Debbie Berger is a member of the Business Owners Trade Alliance.
- Dane Fegely received the Optimist Club Scholarship.
- Kevin and Jacob Fegely made the Strawberry Festival sign along Rt. 222.
- Connor O'Neil sang the National Anthem at the Kutztown Relay for Life.
- Connor O'Neil was the Activity Director for the Kutztown Relay for Life.
- Ben R. Haas played in the Fleetwood School District special concert to honor Church Ebersole, retiring band director at Fleetwood.
- Dane Fegely was a nominee in the Reading Eagle Company's Berks' Best Business Category.
- Caleb Krause received his Eagle Scout Court of Honor on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Lila Berger received the Senatorial Good Citizenship Award and the Commendable Attendance Award at Richmond Elementary School.
- Lila Berger was seen on WFMZ on the last day and closing day at Richmond Elementary.
- Judy Koller's picture with the teachers from 1973 was pulled from the 1973 Time Capsule opened at the closing day at Richmond Elementary School.
- Steve O'Neil (a.k.a. Scott) was pictured with the Kutztown Optimist Club scholarship award winners.
- Caleb Krause served scoops and shakes at the Hamburg Family Festival held at Etchberger Memorial Park.
- Lauren DeLong made the Dean's List at Kutztown University.
- Ernie Wiltrout appeared in the *Reading Eagle* with members of the Kutztown High School class of 1944 at their 75<sup>th</sup> class reunion.
- Archer and Arden Scaffidi swim for the Kutztown Dolphin Swim Team.
- Archer Scaffidi won the Ray A. Master American Legion Medal Award for his essay preventing homelessness within the veteran community.
- Benjamin N. Haas introduced Dr. Michael Karch, MD (recipient) at the Kutztown Area School District Distinguished Alumni Reception.
- Cayden Ciccone-Haas was a proud 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science Fair participant.
- Ben N. Haas, president of KASD Education Foundation, accepted the 2019 "Community Organization of the Year" award for the foundation.

## HONOR ROLL

*If you would like a name included please email the church office or put a note in the secretary's mailbox in the Gathering Area of the church.*

Katelyn DeLong

Archer Scaffidi

# CALLING ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

Local government prepares for everyday emergencies. However, during a disaster, the number and scope of incidents can overwhelm conventional emergency services.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is all-hazard training. This valuable course is designed to help you protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and your neighborhood in an emergency situation. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens may initially be on their own and their actions can make a difference. While people will respond to others in need without the training, one goal of the CERT program is to help them do so effectively and efficiently without placing themselves in unnecessary danger. In the CERT training, citizens learn to:

- Conducting an initial size-up in their homes or workplaces
- Reducing immediate dangers by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, evacuating the area, and helping others
- Treating people in the immediate area
- Working with CERT members and volunteers to establish a command post, staging area, and medical triage and treatment areas
- Collecting damage information and developing a plan of operation based on life-saving priorities and available resources
- Applying their training to situation where CERT members can make a difference
- Establishing and maintaining communication with responders

Why take the CERT Training?

Well, it is like paying for car insurance. You might never need either; you hope not to. But if the occasion arises, having the CERT training, just like having car insurance, means you are as ready as you can be to help yourself, your family and your neighborhood.

CERT Training Course – The course is 16 hours of instruction and “hands on” training and includes training in the following areas:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Preparedness       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Suppression        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Medical Operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Light Search and Rescue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Psychology         | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals in Disaster     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terrorism Awareness         |  |

Lehigh County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) offers **free** CERT trainings to develop our community’s ability to respond to emergency situations. The 16-hour CERT training course is being held as follows:

*(continued on next page)*

**Dates – October 3 – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
October 10 – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
October 17 – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
October 24 – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**

**Location: Cetronia Ambulance, 4300 Broadway, Allentown, PA 18104**  
**Registration is required two weeks prior to the start of class. Please**  
**contact Tanya Hook at [tanyahook@lehighcounty.org](mailto:tanyahook@lehighcounty.org) or at 610-782-4600.**  
(Brochures with further information are available in the church office.)

## **QUIET DAYS**

Quiet Days takes place **July 2<sup>nd</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup>, and September 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. at New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville. There is no registration, but a minimum donation of \$5.00 is requested. Bring a Bible, journal, pen, bag lunch. Information contact Sue at [sawmsw@dejazzd.com](mailto:sawmsw@dejazzd.com).

## **KUTZTOWN KITCHEN**

Usually the third Sunday of the month from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. a Community Meal is held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 357 W. Main St., Kutztown. There is no cost. All are invited. Parking is in the rear of the church on Sacony Alley.

# **ZION'S UNION CHURCH MAXATAWNY MORTGAGE SHREDDING CELEBRATION**

**September 8, 2019**

**Special Church Service at 10:15 A.M.**

**Dinner at Janelle's in Bowers at 12:30 P.M.**

## **Menu**

Turkey and Ham  
Filling and Gravy  
Corn and Green Beans  
Lettuce and Bacon Dressing  
Rolls and Butter  
Beverages  
Cake

**Adults: \$15.00**

**Children ages 6-12: \$7.50**

**Children ages 5 and under: free**

**Tickets will be sold July 28 through August 25  
or until sold out**

**Limited supply of tickets available**



# SYNOD NEWS

## Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

### Highlights from Assembly 2019

#### Festival Worship

On Saturday, June 1, approximately 500 delegates and visitors gathered at Genetti Ballrooms Inn & Suites in Hazleton for Assembly 2019. The day began with a Festival Worship Service led by Bishop Zeiser and synod Vice-President Kristen Edelman-Weiner. Service music was provided by Deacon Michael Krentz and a volunteer choir. An offering of \$3,600 was collected for World Hunger.



In his sermon, **Bishop Zeiser** spoke of a "stirring" within us when we recognize the active presence of God in our life. Driven by faith, we become convinced that we "are onto something"; and we then are

compelled to see it through. The result is ministry, ministry built on the generations of Christians who likewise were convinced that they were onto something. However, the past, no matter how great, is sometimes unhelpful for this time. Our theme "Freed in Christ for a New Day" reminds us that it is indeed a new time; and it further reminds us of who it is that got us here, and who will come again.

#### ELCA Churchwide Representative



The **Rev. Ronald T. Glusenkamp**, Director for "Always Being made new: The Campaign for the ELCA," was this year's ELCA Churchwide representative. Pastor Glusenkamp described the ELCA Churchwide ministry and mission in 2018. This included major efforts in advocacy, candidacy, congregational vitality, Fund for Leaders, World Hunger, global mission, and the Youth Gathering. He shared a video report highlighting these efforts (video link: <https://vimeo.com/332095341>) and also a video greeting from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (video link: <https://youtu.be/TMVRrRKF2sg>). Following Pastor

Glusenkamp's presentation, an offering of over \$3,300 was collected for The Campaign for the ELCA.

#### Bishop Zeiser's Report to the Synod

Bishop Zeiser reviewed some of the mission and ministry of our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod during the past year. He then talked about challenges that the next bishop (to be elected at Assembly 2020) will face. He emphasized that many congregations will be facing challenging situations; and that it is critically important for both congregations and rostered ministers to commit to building a collegial relationship with the new bishop and his or her staff as together they face the immense challenges to come.



## More Highlights from Assembly 2019

### Luncheon

After the morning session, the delegates and visitors adjourned for a luncheon in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Synod receiving its charter. They enjoyed their meal under a large tent on a beautiful spring afternoon.



### Elections

Several individuals were elected to offices in the synod:

Synod Vice President: Kristen Edelman-Weiner

Synod Secretary: The Rev. Carl Shankweiler

Synod Council-Clergy: The Rev. Cheryl Meinschein

Synod Council-Lay Female: Ruth Major

Synod Council-Lay Male: Thomas Engle

### Reports from Synod Officers



Kristen Edelman-Weiner

The Assembly heard reports from the synod officers:

Vice President Kristen Edelman-Weiner; Secretary The Rev. Carl Shankweiler; and Treasurer Donald Dillman. The 2020 Spending Plan was adopted with a total budget for next year of \$1,984,400, of which \$869,500 is sent to the ELCA for Mission Support; and \$148,000 is given to various church related institutions such as Bear Creek Camp, United Lutheran Seminary, Muhlenberg College, PA Conference of Churches, and LAMPa.



Rev. Carl Shankweiler

### Resolutions

The Assembly adopted two resolutions. The first was a major revision of "Continuing Resolutions" offered by Synod Council to bring them up to date with current practice. The second was a resolution that the Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team address the need for synodical youth leadership; and that this Team work with the Transition Team that will report to the new bishop in 2020.

The 2020 compensation guidelines for pastors and deacons were also adopted.

## Assembly 2020, June 4-6

### Kalahari Resort & Convention Center Pocono Manor, PA

Plan now to attend. If you are a delegate, you will help to elect a new bishop.  
And both delegates and visitors can enjoy the indoor  
and outdoor waterparks of this exciting resort.

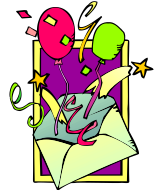


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## CARD SHOWERS

We are listing those couples married 50 years or more and those people 70 years or older. If we are missing anyone, please call the church office.



July 2	Richard Warmkessel
July 6	Nancy Fulton
July 10	Sandra Leiby
July 12	Dianne Angstadt
July 13	Carolyn Wilttrout
July 14	Gloria Haas
July 15	Arlan & Elaine Berger (52 wed)
July 18	William Howard
July 19	Janet Geiger
July 21	Beatrice Bennecoff
July 21	Clair Seidel
July 22	William & Marilyn Bird (58 wed)
August 3	Ruth Siegfried
August 3	John Knabb, Sr.
August 4	Marvin Christman
August 6	Ruth K. Miller
August 20	Lowell Thomas
August 27	Walter & Doris Dietrich (65 wed)
August 31	Glenroy & Patricia Miller (51 wed)
September 2	Emmett Fenstermaker
September 6	Kenneth Angstadt
September 7	James Laub
September 18	George Leiby
September 20	Jean & Richard Harter (50 wed)
September 22	Dave Merkel
September 24	Evelyn Dietz
September 27	Barry Miller

## OUR SYMPATHIES TO

... the family of Donald Crooks.	... the family of Harold Christman.
... the family of Barbara Thomas.	... the family of Tom Thomas.
... the family of Mabel Guldin.	... the family of John Knauss.
... the family of Charles Moyer.	



## MISSION STATEMENT

Energized by the Spirit! Humbled by Christ's Grace! Working for God's glory!

## UPCOMING HOLY COMMUNIONS

You are invited by Jesus Christ to this awesome feast of the Children of God.

July 7	Altar Holy Communion
August 4	Pew Holy Communion
September 1	Altar Holy Communion



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the newsletter will come out the beginning of September. If you have any information to be included in the September newsletter, please have it in the church office by **August 15<sup>th</sup>**.