



# THE PROCLAMATION

MAY 2018

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

LIGHT OF CHRIST  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH



## CHRIST ASCENDING

Recently, a beautiful wood sculpture was installed in the narthex at Light of Christ. Many thanks to **ALBERTA EBELING BAGGEST, MARY MANN** and **PASTOR HELMUT KAFFINE** for telling us its history.

**ALBERTA BAGGEST:** The beautiful sculpture of Christ Ascending was first thought of by **PASTOR HELMUT KAFFINE** of St. Matthew's. My

mother, **BEATRICE EBELING**, asked Pastor what she could donate to the church in memory of my father, **ALBERT EBELING**, who died in October of 1976.

Pastor Kaffine knew about Fortress Press, a Lutheran Publishing house in Philadelphia, which had a special department of ecclesiastical art. The beautiful hand-carved wooden sculpture was selected; it arrived in Philadelphia from Italy and was brought to St. Matthew's.

**PASTOR KAFFINE PICKS UP THE STORY:** It was presented to St. Matthew's by family and friends in memory of Albert Ebeling. The life-size figure carved in Italy was dedicated on Christmas Eve 1977. It was displayed on the rear wall of the church at the end of the center aisle, visible to those exiting after worship.

The sculpture was recently mounted in the narthex above the front door at Light of Christ; the spotlights in this new location reveal the details and colors of the wood.

### LIGHT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Bethlehem, PA 18017

Phone: 610-691-2321

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Email: lightofchrist@rcn.com

### ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

474 Vine Street

Bethlehem, PA 18015

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church@stpetersbethlehem.org

**Pastor Jerry's Cell phone  
number: 484-333-0433**

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Pr. Kaffine: “The figure serves as a reminder of how, when the disciples were gathered together, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Gazing at the statue after we have worshipped serves as a reminder of whose we are and whom we serve.”

## **ASCENSION OF JESUS = EMPOWERMENT AND ACCESS FOR US!**



*Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53 and they were continually in the temple blessing God. Luke 24:50-53*

Greetings and peace to you all!

On May 10, 2018 the Christian church recognizes Ascension of our Lord Day! This was the day in the not too distant past when communities of faith would gather together in worship and celebration of Jesus’ ascension into heaven. In farming communities around Pennsylvania, people would not plant crops, flowers, grass, or anything that went into the earth because it was believed that on this day, the Spirit was “temporarily removed” from the fertile soil. In some communities the ban to “sow” was also seen as a ban to “sew” and women were forbidden from creating garments or mending garments on this day.

A great deal has changed in our culture since the days when Ascension of our Lord Day was viewed with such reverence and respect. In the year of our Lord 2018, there are very few worship services celebrating this event chronicled by Luke of Jesus Ascending and I know of very few places which still observe the “ban from sowing or sewing.” Yet this day should still hold a very special

place in the hearts of Christians throughout the world, for on this day, St. Luke recognizes the limitless power of God and the freedom and access to God for the people of this world!

In Luke’s world view, Jesus has already been raised from the dead and has appeared to many disciples in a variety of ways in order to convince people of God’s power over death. On Ascension Day, Jesus is taken to heaven, but not before our Lord makes promises to believers and offers an “action plan” for those who remain on earth! Jesus says; “Wait here! You will be clothed with power from on high!” For Luke, this was a foretaste of Pentecost, the event recorded in the book of Acts when the Spirit of God descended upon the believers and all were given a spirit of wisdom and revelation as they came to know God on deeper levels. They were given the ability to sense hope in God even when the world around them shared distress. They were empowered to be the body of Christ Jesus in the world, to live the way Christ desired and through their lives to provide a witness to those who didn’t believe that in fact Christ was still present in the world through their very bodies!

In many ways; Ascension Day is beginning of the greatest game of “Tag” ever played. Our God shares with believers in all times and all places “Tag! You’re it! You will represent Me in the world in which we live!” Yet even in this commission, our God promises that we can “access” God whenever we desire; as we dip our fingers into the baptismal font, we “touch” God’s promises that indeed we belong to God. When we meet at the Lord’s table, we “taste” the promises that God continues to come among us offering us pardon, peace and love. As we meet to worship our Lord we “see” the promises through those who gather together in the name of God, filled with the Holy Spirit which calls, gathers, enlightens, and inspires us all to make us a holy body!

As we continue on our journey with Christ into the world as the United Proclamation of the Gos-

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pel in Bethlehem, we stand reminded that indeed whenever we, the Body of Christ in Bethlehem, pour out ourselves into the community out of love for God and love for others, we do so as the very body of Christ in the world in which we live. As we come to know our God on deeper levels and come to grasp the hope to which our God has called and invited us, may our minds be open, may our hearts be enlightened, and may we all feel the power of being “clothed from on high!”

Peace and blessings to you all!

**PASTOR JERRY**

Dear members of the UPG,



Our fifty-day celebration of Easter will soon conclude. On the fiftieth day, May 20th, Christians will celebrate the Day of Pentecost and the presence of the Holy Spirit that has created and re-created the church and its people.

At Christ's ascension into heaven, he assured his followers that the Holy Spirit would remain with them to strengthen their faith and their witness. Like the early Christians, we are also empowered by the Holy Spirit through our baptism to grow in our faith and spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

We see how the power of the Holy Spirit has created the United Proclamation of the Gospel. We see the way in which three congregations of Christians have joined to become a strong Lutheran presence in Bethlehem. We see how our members are worshipping together and reaching out to the community. With the Holy Spirit as the driving force, there's no telling what spirit-filled ministries will spring forth.

Come and be a part of this exciting new way of being the church. Each of us is blessed with specific talents that can be shared. Each of us has the gift of time in which to use these talents to support the ministries of the UPG. Let Christ be our example of loving service to others. Let us use our hearts and our hands to "do God's work." The gift of the Holy Spirit will bless you with all that you need to be and do.

In the name of the risen Christ,

**DEACON LINDA MAULE**

### SALE OF LOCUST STREET PROPERTY



The sale of the **ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH** building and remaining contents to Grace Church Bethlehem of ECO Presby-

terian Church took place on Wednesday, April 4, 2018. An interesting aside to this exciting milestone shows how sometimes history has an odd way of repeating itself. Exactly one hundred years ago, April 4, 1918, the Church Council of St. Matthew's voted to dispose of its church property which at that time was located in Northampton Heights, near where the former basic oxygen furnaces of Bethlehem Steel were located in South Bethlehem. A few weeks later this property was sold to St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Many members of Light of Christ, and even some non-members, spent uncountable hours working to complete this last phase of our consolidation—everything from packing dishes to lugging boxes and furniture up and down steps. You all deserve a hardy well done and many thanks as does the entire congregation for their moral support. Permit me to also name a few individuals whose time and energy went above and beyond. **JOHN MACDONALD** served as our real estate agent. His

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knowledge of what to do and when to do it guided us through the process, but in addition, his calm demeanor and negotiation skill got us successfully through some tough spots. **CHARLIE MANN** was no doubt literally at the church every day for months overseeing the movement of stuff and doing much of this work himself. He recruited his son-in-law **ROSS MAKARY** with his trucks and trailer adding much efficiency to the moving. His cohorts **GEORGE BALTZ** and **RICK ROMIG** along with **MIKE HORWATH'S** property crew did most of the heavy lifting. Three areas of the building had many small pieces to decide what goes and what sells—the kitchen, the archives and the choir room. **LOUISE FIELDING** was the leader for this part of the move. In her quiet way she also spent many hours going through the archives, organizing the kitchen packers and making contacts for dispersal of the several thousand pieces of music.

I would also like to thank the building sale committee: **CHARLIE MANN** for the care he took for the building he loves, **DAN HALTEMAN** for negotiating us through a stumbling block, and **PETE TERRY** for his engineering knowledge and for keeping us focused on what is the right thing to do. Council President **MARY MANN'S** leadership was important in keeping all of us apprised of the next step in the process as well as lending wise thoughts to the decision making. Personally I am grateful for the counsel of **PASTOR JERRY**. His words of wisdom always came at the time I needed them the most. His conversation with the pastor of Grace church resulted in an important breakthrough at a rough spot in the negotiations. Indeed the sale of St. Matthew's building couldn't have happened without the contributions of many of us not mentioned here by name. It's been my privilege to feel the love in this congregation as together we do God's work.

These last four years seem to me somewhat like reading a long family saga novel. As you read through the years there are memorable events and memorable characters and sadness when it comes to the last page. But then it isn't the end, for there is an epilogue which causes you to look

forward to the next volume of the saga. This is where we at Light of Christ are—looking forward to the next volume of spreading the word of God with joy and excitement. God be with us in all of our endeavors.

**NANCY KOSTAS**, chair of the building sale committee

## NEWS

### *From Our Congregations*



The members of **LIGHT OF CHRIST** are saddened by the death of **RICHARD MILLER, JR.** on April 11th. His funeral was held on April 21st at LoC Church. Please remember his wife, **Lorraine** and Richard's family and friends in your prayers during their time of grief.

The members of **ST. PETER'S** are saddened by the death of **NANCY A. BREIDENBACH** on April 3. Her funeral was held on April 9 at Pearson's Funeral Home. Please remember her family and friends in your prayers during their time of grief.



**GRACESON-ASHER TUAZON SEIXAS** was baptized on April 1, 2018 at **ST. PETER'S**. His parents are William E. Seixas and Marylou E. Seixas.



**SCOTT RAWHOUSER** and **KIMBERLY KRONINGER** were married at **ST. PETER'S** on March 24.



### ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Thank you for your generous response to this special offering. Our combined UPG contributions were \$1,310. We will be able to provide ELCA's Global Barnyard with 13 pairs of goats to bless farming communities in developing countries.

### UPG ADVOCACY TEAM

If you have a passion for ministry that will reach out and go beyond the walls of the two campuses of the United Proclamation of the Gospel, please be in touch with either **LOIS RITCHIE** of **St. Peter's** campus or **LINDA MAULE** of **Light of Christ**.

We are joining our groups together to develop plans for the activities/projects we hope to sponsor as the UPG. We look forward to hearing from members who want to participate in the planning and/or have ideas for how we can be a church that makes a difference in our community and beyond.

**Christian  
Education  
Director**



Dear friends,

The month of May reminds us that we are nearing the end of our Sunday School year. Your Sunday School teachers and I are going to be meeting on May 6, 2018 following Sunday School to make plans for our end of year picnic and festival which will be held on June 3, 2018 following our 11:00 a.m. worship. We are thankful for **MATT PISZEL** and

the fellowship committee who provide and cook the hot dogs for this event. Our children will sing as part of the service and Pastor Jerry will be including the closing of our Sunday School in the worship service. We invite all of the members of the UPG to attend worship at LOC that day and to remain for the picnic. It is a very friendly event for all ages.

On May 20, 2018 the Educational Ministry Committee will be thanking our Sunday School teachers for their dedicated teaching this school year. Donation envelopes will be distributed through our Sunday School. Monetary donations can be put in the marked envelopes (found on the long table in the LoC narthex) and placed in the offering plates or given to **LYNN TERRY** or **SANDY HORWATH**. Donations of food will also be graciously accepted. Please see Lynn if you wish to donate an item of food.

Our Sunday School continues to collect offerings for the ELCA's Good Gifts program. We will be collecting offerings throughout the remainder of this school year and during VBS for the purchase of goats for farming families in developing countries. To support this ministry, please write a check to Light of Christ or St. Peter's and write Good Gifts on the memo line. Thank you!

VBS is coming!!! July 16-20, 2018 from 9:00-noon at our Light of Christ campus we will be leading the program from Concordia Press: "Splash Canyon - God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride." Registration and volun-

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teer forms will be on the table in the narthex this month. Youth and adult volunteers are needed to bring the Word and Love of God to the children!! Please enroll or sign up to be on the staff today!!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE  
UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- May 6, 2018 - 10:40 a.m. Sunday School Teacher Meeting in the Youth Room of LOC
- May 20, 2018 - Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Brunch - fellowship hall of LOC following worship
- June 3, 2018 - Sunday School Closing Worship and Picnic/Festival on the lawn. Service 11:00 a.m. - picnic and festival following.
- July 16-20, 2018 VBS 9:00-noon - LOC campus



We have been blessed by your support of our preschool especially during our Lutheran Schools' Week Celebration!! Thank you to all who made our celebration a reflection of God's love in our lives!! **KAREN SCHOCH** and **CAROL QUIRK** read to the children during this week in addition to **PASTOR JERRY'S** weekly visit. Many of you contributed to our Scholarship Fund for which we are for-

ever thankful. The Educational Endowment Fund of St. Matthew's Congregation also supported this fund. We are also very thankful for their gift of love for children.

Many people contributed to the celebration on April 15th. It was a great day for us in worship and fellowship. Many thanks to our school board members who volunteer many hours of their time to our preschool. Especially we are thankful for **LOIS ZIGMUND** who spends many hours keeping our finances in order for us. Also thank you to **ANN NONNEMACHER** who made our celebration festive and fun for children!! Thank you to all who donated the food and supplies for this event and who helped to serve and cleaned up afterward. Thank you, also, to **TRACY HAAS** and **LAUREN BURIAN** who captured fabulous images of the event for us. Thank you to all of our staff present and former who were able to attend to support **MISS CHRIS** and our preschool.

During the month of April, **JOSH ROSS**, a tattoo artist and parent of a child who attends our Sunday School, came to draw a spring picture with the children. The children start with suggesting an animal that we see in our yards in the springtime. From that idea a beautiful drawing grows with more suggestions from the children. Josh is a very gifted artist and we have been blessed by the time he spends with us sharing his talent with the children. This is his second visit to our school.

During the month of May Officer Sean Con-

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ley of the Bethlehem Police Department will come to share ideas of ways to remain safe with the children. Members of the Lincoln Fire company, our friends right down the street from LOC, will come to tell us about the job of firemen and women. REGINA KOCHMARUK, Youth Outreach Librarian of the BAPL, will present the PA OneBook story to our children.

We will also celebrate the love in our families with Mother's Day Tea Parties this month and we will hold our closing programs the week before Memorial Day. We will offer our nine day Spring Capers program the nine days following Memorial Day.

Please find our Preschool and Sunday School and Youth Group on Facebook for photos of our recent events: Messiah Lutheran Church Child Center and Light of Christ Lutheran Church Youth.

We are registering for next school year. Our three and four year old programs will fill, so do not delay in registering!!

God Bless Us One and All!!

Love and joy!

LYNN TERRY



## “BREWING THEOLOGY!” TUESDAY MAY 8, 2018



Join your friends for a wonderful discussion in a relaxing atmosphere with the ability to share in beverage and food! Brewing Theology is a night when sisters and brothers get together at “Stefano’s Restaurant” located on

Linden Street for informal discussions about faith and the world around us. This month we will come together on **TUESDAY May 8, 2018 at 6:00 PM** (though some of us are there earlier to eat) and share time of fellowship together. Our gathering normally lasts until approximately 8 PM. To give you an idea of some of the things we talk about; here is a list of some topics shared by people who gathered last month: We talked about the presence of sin and evil and how we face this in our world, we spoke about addiction, death, grace and mercy. We even spoke briefly to the issue of a “wrathful God”. This is a great place to ask questions and simply process the world around us through a faith perspective and all are invited to be part of this powerful ministry!



## CHRISTIAN SERVICE! EVERY WEDNESDAY, 9:00 AM ON LIGHT OF CHRIST CAMPUS

Join us for a time of quilt making, blanket making, and various other ministries that assist not only our community of faith but the people who live among us in our communities! The Light of Christ Chris-

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tian Service is filled with good will, wonderful fellowship, and an incredible love of sharing our abundance with others! We gather together each Wednesday morning in the Light of Christ Fellowship Hall, please come out and join us!

**UPG LADIES LUNCHEON. MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 PALACE RESTAURANT, NOON**



Come on out to the Palace Restaurant at noon on **MAY 14, 2018** and join your sisters in Christ for a wonderful meal and an incredible opportunity for fellowship!

**UPG MEN'S BREAKFAST. MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018 PALACE RESTAURANT, 8:00 AM**



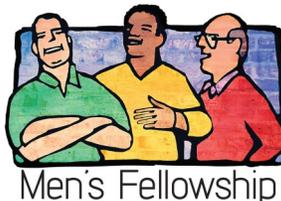
Come out to the Palace Restaurant at 8:00 AM on **MAY 21, 2018** and join your brothers in Christ for a wonderful meal and an incredible opportunity for fellowship!



**UPG SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP** – Every Saturday evening at 5:00 PM we gather together on our Light of Christ Lutheran Church campus (2020 Worthington Ave.) to celebrate a worship

experience with Holy Communion! The first Saturday of each month in the warmer months (May – September) this worship will be held outside on the lawn of our Light of Christ campus and will be followed by a fellowship picnic. Our first outdoor worship will be held on **MAY 5, 2018!** Please consider joining us for this wonderful weekend opportunity!

**UPG MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**



Each Wednesday morning at 6:30 AM all men are invited to participate in our UPG Men's Fellowship Group! Our group will be meeting in the Trauger Room on our St. Peter's Campus. Coffee is always brewing and our time together also includes an opportunity for mutual support and encouragement to one another.

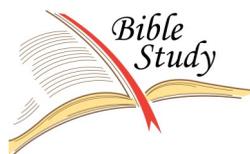
**THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS**



We are always looking for additional Thrift Shop Volunteers to help at the South Bethlehem Thrift Shop on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM (This month May 8 and 22).

Please contact the UPG Executive Assistant (Kathi Raphael) if you might be interested in helping with this important ministry!

**STORIES OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY**



Join us every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM (Light of Christ Campus Library) or 6:30 PM on our St. Peter's Campus (Social Room) for Stories of Faith

Bible Study. During this 90-minute session we will take a closer look at the Scripture assigned for the coming weekend worship celebrations and explore the questions and thoughts that you bring to these Scripture lessons! There is no prior Bible Study experience necessary to join this lively discussion, simply bring an open heart and willing ears and see where the Spirit will lead our discussion. Consider joining us!



KNITTER'S GROUP

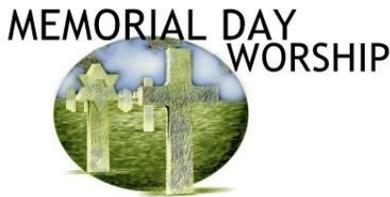
**UPG KNITTERS' GROUP**

If you enjoy doing handi-work of any kind~~knitting, crocheting, etc.~~think about

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coming to the St. Peter's campus on Monday, **May 21<sup>st</sup>** from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Enter at the Parking Lot or Vine St. doors by ringing the St. Peter's doorbell and you'll be let in. The group meets in the UCF Room on Level I. Bring your own projects, share supplies, patterns, or ideas as you meet others who enjoy a quiet time apart from the noisy, busy world. There is always good conversation, sharing of ideas, and a prayer to send us back out into the real world!!! All are welcome.



**MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018 (9:00 AM) - ST. PETER'S) MEMORIAL DAY WORSHIP**

On this day, we join with Americans around our country to give thanks to our Lord for lifting sisters and brothers in Christ up who have protected our values and freedoms throughout the generations. We add our voices to the cacophony of voices which mourn those who have made the ultimate sacrifice of their life for the enduring hope and promise that our country holds dear. We pray to our Lord that the day will come when "The Lord will mediate between nations and will settle international disputes. (A day when) They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. (A day when) Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore." Yet, until that day arrives, we offer our prayers and give thanks to those who offer their service on our behalf.

**PASTORS AND GUARDIANS OF HOLY ISRAEL COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Each week, normally on Thursday evening and Saturday evening, the Pastors and Guardians of Holy Israel Community of faith meet on our St. Peter's campus. This community of faith, which offers ministry in both Spanish and English, has

been meeting in our facilities and has truly been a blessing. Led by Pastors Victor and Marilyn Mendoza, an enthusiastic community of between 50-60 people worshipping our Lord!

**BLANKET MAKING**



Tuesday, **May 15** from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, on the **St. Peter's** Campus, everyone is welcome to come help with blanket making. If you can iron, cut fabric, and/or tie knots, **YOU** can help!!! These blankets, when shipped through Lutheran World Relief, are sent around the world for people in need of warmth, shelter, privacy, and the knowledge that people somewhere love and care about

them.

You can bring a lunch if you'd like. It is a time of caring for others, sharing of conversation and making blankets!!! If you can't attend the work sessions at St. Peter's, but have a sewing machine at home and would like some of the "take home" projects, be in touch with **ELIZABETH ELTERICH**. Donations of cotton fabric (64 X84) are also greatly appreciated.



Lehigh Valley Christian Chinese Church

Every week the Lehigh Valley Christian Chinese Church offers an extension of their ministry on our **ST. PETER'S** campus. On Thursdays at noon Christian Chinese students from Lehigh University gather in our social room for Bible Study and on Friday evenings at 6:00 PM approximately 80 sisters and brothers in Christ gather to worship our Lord and share God's teaching.

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## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Women's Bible Study will gather on the **St. Peter's** Campus on Tuesday, **May 1st** and **15th** from 9:20 to 11:00 AM. The Bible study comes from Gather Magazine, from the ELCA. The Bible study focus verse for May is from Hebrews 13: 1-2: Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it? Together the women gathered will share how that Scripture impacts the life of the UPG, our community of Bethlehem and the wider world. There is time for sharing, prayer, and the experience of hospitality.

There is always a chair waiting for you, the tea/coffee/snacks are ready, and no previous Bible study experience is necessary. Pray that you will join the circle soon.



- 1 Blair & Charlotte Frankenfield  
Richard & Mildred Wescoe
- 2 Herbert & Mirta Heffner  
Kimberly & Nicole Pentland  
Raymond & Maureen Vander Fliet
- 3 Richard & Marlane Hasonich
- 6 Jack & Patricia Reichel
- 7 Richard & Lauren Fotiades
- 8 Tamara & Christopher Mitchell
- 14 Doris & Ed Oechsle
- 19 John & Sandra Halleman III
- 21 Robert & Tami Holmes Jr.

- 24 Rick & Mandy Hasonich  
Barry & Judy Ihle  
Cory & Sara Zrinski
- 29 Traci Braun and Kenda Riley
- 31 Edward & Amy Gubich Jr.



Congratulations to the **REV. RAYMOND HITTINGER** who will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination on May 26.



In the Mailbag!

To My Light of Christ and St. Peter's friends,

- Thank you for your prayers and thoughtfulness during my recovery.
- The altar flowers were a cheery reminder of all of you.
- I am progressing forward each day.

Dennis Newhart

+++++

### THE POWER OF PENTECOST

Before Pentecost the disciples found it hard to do easy things; after Pentecost they found it easy to do hard things. —A.J. Gordon

- "He departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here."—St. Augustine
- "The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on."—Julia Alvarez
- "Adopt the pace of nature: Her secret is patience."—Ralph Waldo Emerson



- 1 Gerard Clavens  
Deborah Wagner  
Grace Jesse  
Janet Deegan
- 2 Brian Ihle
- 3 Patricia John  
Alisia Drayton  
Halle Zrinski
- 5 Patrick Nolan  
Andy Powell  
Lori Keller  
Valerie Cacciatore  
Gina DeAngelis
- 6 Matthew Donchez  
Daniel Halteman
- 7 Laura Linton  
Lorraine Miller  
Richard Groff
- 8 Michael Brandle
- 9 Valerie Gaydos  
Linda Markwith  
Jennifer Rupp
- 10 Scott Reitenauer Jr.  
Ryla Roberts  
Bennett Konjoian
- 11 Darryl George  
Brittany Horwath  
Carol Knauss  
Lauren O'keefe-Burian  
James Segesdy  
Blaze Trautman  
Joan Helman
- 12 Jill Crisafi  
Michelle Nolan
- 14 Kenneth Diefenderfer
- 15 Elizabeth Mark  
Jennifer Nicholas  
Wayne Shollenberger  
Jackson Ailliam Valish  
Rachel Fackenthall  
Rebecca Derham
- 17 Ethan Jones  
Edward Rohrbach Jr.
- 18 David Davis



- Edna Pagel  
Richard Hawk
- 19 Shirley Eshbach  
Thomas Henshaw
- 20 Melvin Klotz  
Mya Mark  
Evelyn Smith
- 21 Mako Allem  
Robert Bradford  
Sharon Hubinsky  
Patricia Ousley  
Tyler Wood  
Donna Musselman  
Katie Lynn Schneckner
- 22 Thomas Seifert  
Linda M. Zrinski  
Alexander Fantasia
- 23 Barry Schaller  
William Jesse  
Kensley Young
- 24 Marilyn Parks  
Beverly Kunkle  
George Nagy  
Elizabeth Ann Lychak  
Stephen Kospiah  
Elizabeth Kovach  
Robert Voron  
Jessica Peek  
Kenneth Young  
Logan Frankenfield
- 26 Paula Sanchez  
Earl Kurtz
- 27 Ella Jane Kunkle  
Karen Pokojni
- 28 Adam Kolman
- 29 Margot Konjoian
- 30 Charles Heidecker  
Nicholas Kociolek  
Richard Uttard Sr.  
Anna Lehr
- 31 Guy Barry Christman  
Tyler Dalla Piazza  
Kristina Donchez  
Brandi Brader

**PLEASE SUPPORT FOUNTAIN HILL CEMETERY / WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

T-Shirts for Sale (designed by **RON FRANKENFIELD**). If you would like to make a purchase, please see or call Ron Frankenfield (610) 867-0244.

Shirts are made in the USA and all proceeds go to support Fountain Hill Cemetery / Wreaths Across America.



# SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



**June 8-9**

**Mohegan Sun Arena  
Wilkes-Barre, PA**

**Special Guest:**

**Pastor Gustavo Gómez Pascua**



President of the Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Unida (the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay).

**Festival Worship Service**

4:00 pm on Friday, June 8.  
All are welcome.

**Service Projects**

There will be two blocks of time on Friday for Bear Creek Camp, Ministry Displays, and Service Projects.

For more information and to register, please visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/synod-assembly-2018>.

## United Proclamation of the Gospel St. Matthew, Messiah & St. Peter, Bethlehem



What do you get when you take three distinct congregations and turn them into one community of faith? Chaos? In house fighting and bickering? No, silly! You get the United Proclamation of the Gospel (Bethlehem).

In September of 2017 the congregations of St. Matthew, Messiah, and St. Peter entered into a bold vision of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ in

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania! Unlike previous models of "shared ministry," this model calls for **one** community of faith on **two** campuses!

In bringing these ministries together in this way, the three congregations have been able to share leadership, bring new and exciting ministry opportunities to more people, and allow the members of these faith communities to feel the power and the presence of God in deeper and more profound ways! At the same time, they have been able to be much better stewards of the available financial resources that they enjoy.

Indeed, at the six month point of their journey together, there have been many "opportunities for them to excel" as they have encountered various obstacles in their path. There have been many difficult discussions held about the best way in which to proceed. Yet through all of these adjustments and all of these moments, a Spirit of unity, peace, and joy in sharing God's word with many more sisters and brothers in Christ has been present!

If this sounds like a ministry that you or your congregation might be interested in pursuing, please pray about it, then feel free to contact Pr. Jerry Kulp at St. Peter.

## Do You Subscribe to the Weekly Synod E-News?

Each Tuesday morning the synod emails a newsletter to nearly 1,000 people. Are you one of them? If not, why not?

Synod E-News contains up to date information on happenings and upcoming events that are of interest to Lutherans in Northeastern PA.

You can subscribe on the synod website (<http://nepasynod.org>) under the "Publications" tab. Give it a try! If at any time you wish to stop the subscription, you can do so by clicking "Unsubscribe from this list" at the bottom of any edition of E-News.

## Major Anniversaries Celebration on May 8

On May 8 at the Lutheran Center, there is a worship service at 11:00 AM to celebrate major anniversaries of rostered ministers in our synod. All are invited to join in recognizing the many years of service for these servants of the church.

## Talking About Racism

### Education - *The Level Playing Field*

Women of the ELCA have done some good work addressing racism. The Level Playing Field is a program to help people make the connection between racism and real life. It hopes to make people see that to be anti- (against) racism is a good thing!

## Stations of the Cross at Prince of Peace, Johnsonville



This Lent the congregation at Prince of Peace, Johnsonville was invited to walk the "Stations of the Cross." The Stations or the Way of the Cross refers to a series of images of Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion. They are placed in order so that Christians may contemplate the Passion of Christ as a spiritual pilgrimage.

The use of the Stations goes back to at least the 15th century. Today, the Stations can be found in and around the churches of many Western Christian denominations, including Anglican, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, and Western orthodox parishes.

The images at Prince of Peace were completed by both youth and adult members of the congregation, using a variety of media. The Stations were hung around the walls of the sanctuary during Lent. Devotional booklets and a brochure depicting the work of the artists and their stories was made available. Members of the congregation walked the stations on their own or in groups.

A mid-week Lenten series focused on the images of the Stations using *Visio Divina* (Latin for "divine seeing"). As *Lectio Divina* is a method of praying with scripture, so *Visio Divina* is a method for praying with images or other media. The Orthodox tradition has long practiced praying with images through icons; but the western church, and Protestantism in particular, has been less comfortable with this type of prayer. A cursory glance through scripture will show, however, that images have been an important part of God's way of communicating.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA  
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View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news>.

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**OFFICE HOURS AT ST. PETER'S are: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**Pastor Jerry's Cell phone number: 484-333-0433**

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Rev. Edith B. Roberts

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Kenda Riley

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Anthony DeAngelis

Lynn Terry

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Al Radtke, Lisa Mantz

Ministers of God's Word

Responsible for Administration of God's Word

Congregational Presidents for UPG

Senior Pastor of UPG

Pastor Emerita St. Peter's

Pastor Emeritus Messiah Lutheran Church

Executive Assistant to Senior Pastor

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Custodians



# Hymn Sing



## SUGGESTION

**A LIST OF MY FAVORITE HYMNS FROM  
THE ELW (RED BOOK) FOR INCLUSION IN OUR SUMMER WORSHIP.**

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**PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET IN THE OFFERING PLATE.**

**THANK YOU**