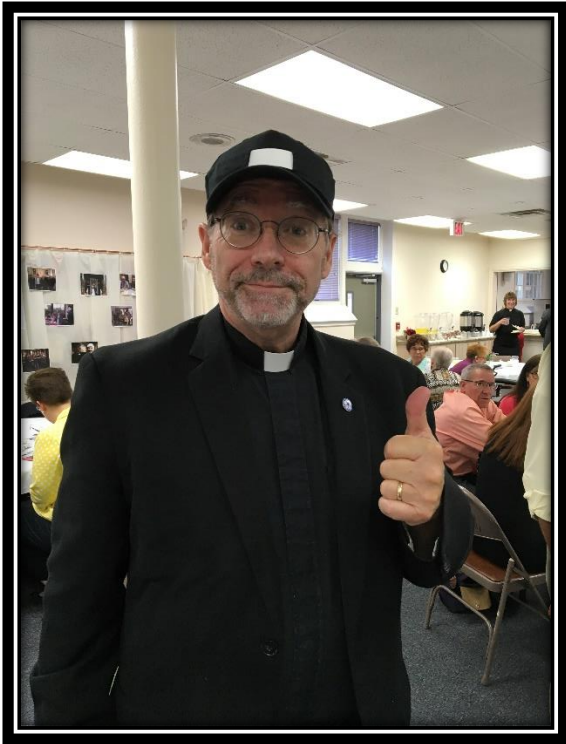




THE LAMPSTAND

Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church † 80 Gockley Road † Stevens, PA 17578
Volume 10 Number 8/9 August/September 2017



Pastor's Message

Where There Is No Vision the People Perish – Proverbs 29:18

The Church of Jesus Christ was founded on dreams, prophecies and visions. When Peter stood up on the Day of Pentecost and preached he talked about these three things. (Acts chapter 2) Has the church gotten soft? Is your faith a pioneering faith or does it want to stay safe all the time?

Because of what God has done, is doing now and will do in the future, we as disciples, are commanded to be prophets here and now; to challenge the way things are now because of what God has promised for the future. Prophecy is not predicting who will win the Super Bowl. Prophecy is bringing the Word of God to a particular situation in the here and now. That is often unpopular. You don't have to know fancy religious talk to be a prophet. But you do have to have courage. The next time you see two parents acting like children as they fight over their child's custody, ask them "What are you doing to your children by acting like children yourselves?" They'll probably say it's none of your business. But if parents are incapable of taking care of children, they must be shown a better way. I'm sure you'll encounter someone like that this week. There are far too many cases today where parents act

like children and wound their children emotionally because of their own selfishness.

Vision also, like prophecy, takes courage. Are you looking ahead? Our children will remember us. What will they remember? Will they remember that we took chances and moved ahead? Or will they remember that we crawled into a shell of a church and hid from the world's problems? The Gospel of God fears no risks. In fact, the Gospel of Christ calls for risk. For risk in this world does not eliminate certainty in the Kingdom of God. Jesus said, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62) When the farmer is in the field, he doesn't think of last year's crop; rather he takes care of the one to come.

Recently our family visited Fort Ligonier in Western Pennsylvania. In 1758 pioneers walked across the mountains, pushing wagons, pulling horses, carrying large chests on their backs, over the rocky terrain to arrive at a place where there was nothing but wilderness. They struggled hard to arrive, not to a safe place, but to a hostile new land. Today there is a four-lane highway which passes through the Fort as it glides easily up the mountains. People drive in air-conditioned cars up and down listening to music on the radio. Has our country and religion gotten soft? We remember the pioneers as courageous and visionary people. How will our children remember us? In our faith and in our churches, we must grasp the eternal vision of Scripture, not hide behind it. Plan for the future. Think ahead. Go, as did Abraham and Sarah, into a land of the unknown holding tightly to the promise of Almighty God. This is our journey.

Prayer of the *Month*



Gracious God, we pray for all victims of violence and terror around our world, both at home and abroad. We pray for cooler heads, respect for one another, and saner solutions. We pray for the courage to love all God's children. We pray that black lives will matter to all. We pray that law enforcement officials will be safe in their work, and that God's house in all places will safe space and sanctuary for all who enter.

Gracious God, we pray for all who commit violence against others, that they recognize the violence they have committed, that their hearts would be changed, and that they receive forgiveness, mercy, and grace when it is offered and in doing so be changed.

Gracious God, we pray for peace, justice, and reconciliation for the whole human family around the world that encounters violence, racism, prejudice, and injustice.

Gracious God, we pray for immigrants and refugees who in their desperation to move to a new country put their lives in danger; that all be led safely in God's care.

Gracious God, we pray for those in the criminal justice system, especially this month we pray for the administration, staff, corrections officers, inmates, families of inmates of following facilities: Forest County Jail, Franklin County Jail, Fulton County Jail, Greene County Prison, Huntingdon County Prison, SCI Retreat at Humlock Creek, SCI Rockview at Bellefonte, and SCI Somerset.

Gracious God, we pray for those who are hungry and homeless in our midst. We pray for the many ministries across our Lower Susquehanna Synod and give thanks for the difference being made.

Gracious God, we pray for all schools, colleges, and universities that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<http://www.lss-elca.org/wepray/>



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Dinner Church

Dinner Church is canceled until further notice due to repairs that will be made in the kitchen and social hall.

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

HELP WANTED! The kiddos of Mellingers are in need of Sunday School teachers. Would you be willing to help out? I am looking for substitute teachers to help out

when regular teachers are on vacation or need a bit of a break. Our children's Sunday School program currently consists of three different classes, Nursery (0 - 3), Rotation (age 4 to 5th grade) and Jr/Sr. High (6th - 12th grade). Please contact me, Diane Adair (717-715-3124 or see me in church), if you are willing to give some of your time to the children of Mellingers. I'd love to answer any questions you may have! You don't have to be a Biblical scholar to shape the minds of children. The curriculum will be provided for you and all classes are easy to teach! "What we instill in our children will be the foundation upon which they build their future" ~ Steve Maraboli

We are in need of the following Worship

Assistants: Acolytes, Candlebearers, Communion Assistants, Crucifers, and Lay Worship Leaders. Anyone interested in participating in worship as a leader in this way should contact Pastor Tim or the Church office.

Volunteers Wanted for the Nursery:

In the quest to provide a pleasant nursery experience for all, we are extending to the congregation the ability to work in the nursery on the dates that they choose. The sign-up sheet is available on the table in the narthex. You **MUST** have a completed PA Child Abuse History Certification and PA State Police Criminal Record check completed and turned in to the office. Forms can be obtained through the office or at the following websites:

PA State Police Request for Criminal Background Check Volunteer Only:

<https://epatch.state.pa.us/TandCVolunteerAction.do>

PA Child Abuse History Certification:

http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/form/s_001762.pdf

Volunteers Wanted to Take Communion

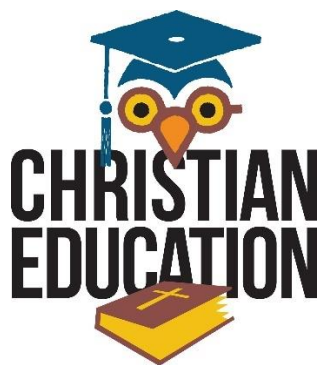
to Shut-ins: To supplement Pastor Tim's visits, Mellingers is looking for volunteers who would like to be trained to visit and take Holy Communion to our shut-ins. This ministry will benefit those receiving communion and will also be a blessing for those who offer it. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tim at (717) 468-9049.

Calling All Sewers: If anyone is willing to sew school kits for Social Ministry's LWR Ingathering, please contact Betty Cordes at (717) 335-3624. Patterns are available in the church office. Cut patterns are currently available from Betty Cordes. Please note that sewers keep sewing throughout the year to replenish the stock needed for the upcoming year's school kits.

Photos Wanted: Do you enjoy taking pictures of special moments? Would you be interested in sharing those photos with the church? We are looking for photos to share in the newsletter, on our website, Facebook, etc. Sharing is easy, you can send them through email at mellingerslutheran@gmail.com.

2017 Coffee Social Bakers Needed: The 2017 Coffee Social charts are available in the narthex. Please sign up for a date to provide after service treats.

Gardener for the Memorial Garden: We are seeking one more person or group of people to care for the Memorial Garden. Please contact Randy Meckley or the church office if you are interested.



SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BREAKFASTS:

meet at Oregon Dairy at 8:30 am on the 2nd Saturday of each month. All are welcome to attend. You are responsible for the purchase of your own breakfast. You can check out the breakfast menu at:

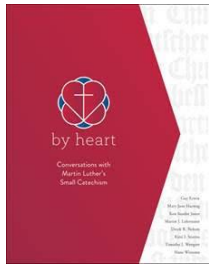
<http://www.oregondairy.com/wp-content/themes/oregondairy/menus/breakfast-menu.pdf>.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Starting September 12th the Tuesday Evening Bible Study with Pastor Tim will start again in the Faith Café. Please join us as we will begin by exploring possible topics for our study. Suggestions? Contact Pastor Tim.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY

Sunday school classes will begin again for all ages on Sunday, September 10th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. There are classes for everyone from birth through adults. So please join us for Sunday School and bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends. Hope to see you there!



**Adult Sunday School Class
begins Sept. 10 at 10:30 AM.**

**by Heart:
Conversations with Martin
Luther's Small Catechism**

**led by Seminarian Scott
Brubaker**

Like the Small Catechism itself, this course aims to create faith. It is for adults who have never encountered the

Small Catechism, and it is for adults who studied and memorized it as adolescents or teens. It is for those who assume that the original document requires no further explication and that we should simply pick it up and start reading (or memorizing). It is also for those who find scripture to be an inaccessible forest of words, the Creed and Lord's Prayer to be rote exercise, the sacraments to be obscure rituals, and Martin Luther and his innovations to be largely irrelevant. For those who are about to be introduced to the Small Catechism, and for those who know it well already, we hope the Spirit will use this course to ignite—and reignite—in them the irrepressible spark that Luther's poetic and resonant words uniquely do still today. So, the purpose of this course is to create space, at least, for conversations with Luther's Small Catechism.

We will be using a combination of a student handbook and short, lively, animated videos to help participants quickly engage in the session's topic.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH GROUP ONGOING PROGRAMS

The Youth Group is collecting Moo Money caps from Turkey Hill products purchased at Turkey Hill stores.

YOUTH SANDWICH SALE

The Youth Group is in the process of selling sandwiches which can be picked up on September 21st at the church. See a youth group member or sign-up in the narthex if you'd like to buy a delicious sandwich and help support our youth including the upcoming trip in the summer of 2018 to the National Youth Assembly.

See you in church or Sunday School,

Pastor Tim

YOUTH GATHERING 2018

Mellingers will be sending 7 members of the Youth Group and 2 adult chaperones to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. Due to the distance, the group will be flying to Houston, which adds a big amount to our proposed budget. The congregation has been very supportive of the group's fundraising efforts in the past through the BBQ Meal and Silent Auction, purchasing of Kettle Corn and Peanut Butter Eggs, and sandwich sales, but the group still has a long way to go. We will be applying for "scholarship" money through the Gathering to cover the registration fees for the Youth members (\$350 per person). Each member of the group has been asked to pay a non-refundable deposit for the trip. There will be a Temple Talk on June 11 to pass along information about the Gathering. During the month of June there will be collection jars in the church for members to donate to the Gathering Fund, and the group will continue with other fundraisers until we leave for Houston in June of 2018. Any donations made by check should be made to: Mission Investment Fund and given to Gail Harker for deposit in the Gathering Fund account. Thank you for your past support.

CONTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES:

Contributions may be made to the following funds at any time and may also be used to aid people in designating monies for memorials. Should you wish to donate to any of these funds, please place funds in an envelope and provide the name of the fund in which you would like your donation placed, your name, and your envelope number. Should you choose to remain anonymous, do not include your name and envelope number.

- ✚ The Kitchen Project Fund
- ✚ The Seminarian Fund
- ✚ Maintenance and Building Fund
- ✚ Youth Gathering 2018
- ✚ Campus Crusade for Christ
- ✚ Needy Fund
- ✚ **Security System:** We are currently seeking donations to pay for a security video and intercom system. Please use the special envelopes and write in Security System if you are interested in donating for this cause.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Receipts Compared To Budget August

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Over/</u> <u>(Under)</u>
8/6/2017	4,294.00	5,010.52	(716.52)
8/13/2017	4,716.50	5,010.52	(294.02)
8/20/2017	4,046.00	5,010.52	(964.52)

General Receipts Compared to Budget Year to Date

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>
8/20/2017	143,264.95	97,610.70	(13,134.51)

CARE PACKAGES: Due to increasing need within the congregation we have placed a box in the narthex for Staples (shelf-stable foods) and Sundries (toiletries, toilet paper, etc.). These items will be used for members within the congregation who are in need. Should there be an excess of items, items may be donated to Ephrata Area Social Services. Please prayerfully consider donating to those less fortunate. Thank you!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF INGATHERING

Social Ministry will be collecting 4-5 oz. bars of soap for Lutheran World Relief throughout the year. Please place your donations into the green container in the narthex.

Also we will continue to collect funds to support our mission throughout the year. Just use an envelope located on the table in the narthex. We will be handing out envelopes April through September.

Thanks to congregational support, in 2016 we were able to produce:

- ✚ 4 Quilts
- ✚ 186 Personal Care Kits
- ✚ 353 School Kits
- ✚ 16 Baby Kits
- ✚ 1,624 Bars of Soap

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

BIBLE SCHOOL WRAP-UP

There were 32 children who attended Bible School this year! Our theme was "BLAST OFF!" and our Bible stories included Creation, God's Promise to Abram, Angels Visit Mary & Joseph, Light of the World, and Salt and Light. Each night the children heard the Bible story, attended a theater presentation, created a snack, assembled a craft, and played games all centered around that night's theme. We had an awesome, fun-packed week filled with joyous children and God's love!!

"DO YOUR OWN THING" TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY December 9 2017

Leave Mellingers Lutheran Church, Schoeneck

at 6:30 AM

Leave New York City

after a day "To Do Your Own Thing"
at 7:00 PM

Trip Price: \$45 Linda @ 336-6177

PRAYER CORNER

Interested in receiving or making prayer chain updates throughout the week? Visit our website at www.mellingers.org. The links to sign-up are under the Resources tab.

SEMINARIAN UPDATE

By Scott Brubaker

The summer is flying by and I have been busy! I enjoyed my week-long intensive class on Spiritual Formation June 19-26 at the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia. My final paper is due August 1. One year of classes down and three more to go. Then a year of internship before ordination.

I enjoyed the opportunity to preach at Mellingers on July 9. On July 23, I led worship at Zion Lutheran in Akron while Pastor Lenahan was on vacation. I also facilitated the adult Bible School class July 23-27 on the topic of "Jesus is the Question" which examined how Jesus asked far more questions than he ever answered. Then a break in August for a family vacation before the fall semester begins.

In the fall, I will be taking two online courses from the new United Lutheran Seminary (ULS)—the result of the merger of Gettysburg and Philadelphia Lutheran Seminaries (one school, two campuses). The new ULS gives students more options and access to a varied faculty and course offerings. One class is on church history until 1500; the other on Lutheran confessions and theology. Next January, I will likely take a week-long intensive class on the Gettysburg campus called Worshipping Community which will help me learn about preparing and leading worship.

I am very grateful to my Mellingers family for all your prayers and support.

In Christ,
Scott

How to help Scott with Tuition Expenses

If you feel called to help assist Scott financially, please take advantage of the white envelopes and select the Seminarian Fund. Congregational support (whatever is given through Mellingers) is matched, dollar for dollar up to half of tuition cost, by supporters of the seminary.



Dear members of Mellingers,

Words cannot express the emotion that Kim and I have in response to your most thoughtful – and TOTALLY successful SURPRISING celebration on my 30th anniversary as your pastor.

God has truly blessed us these many years as we have become a part of the Body of Christ with our beautiful church family.

Thanks also for the briefcase. It's magnificent ancillary help me stop juggling all my books and papers.

The love and power of God shines clearly through you all.

I remember also the many Saints who aren't here in this world anymore but who continue to guide us through the Holy Spirit.

As the Apostle Paul wrote in Philippians 1:3-6, "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."

Thank you so much. We love you too!

In Christ, Pastor Tim and Kim Craven

Dear family of Mellingers,

Kim and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the generous cash gift and the donation in my name to the kitchen project. Every day God continues to surprise us with your holy love. We love you too!

Pastor Tim and Kim

Kim and I want to thank everybody for cards and prayers at the occasion of our 36th wedding anniversary. God has been good and guided us these many years and with all of you as friends on the journey.

God bless you, Pastor Tim and Kim

Many thanks to my friends of Mellingers for your concern for me as I recover from what turned out to be a very serious fall on May 1. In the beginning, it made me totally helpless and dependent on my family for the smallest activity. I am sincerely grateful for your prayers, phone calls, and an unbelievable number of get well cards. I especially appreciate Pastor Tim's visit and regular follow-up with Carl to check on how I'm doing. Special thanks go to choir members for the big basket of fruit. I thank God that I am recovering a little more every day. It's very encouraging to know that you all care about me and each other.

God Bless You All, Shirly Tobias

Many Thanks!

- To Martha Brubaker, Nancy Hain, Brittany Hartlove, Kelsey Hogan, Victoria Stief, Troy Adair, Hayden Leonhard, Courtney Martin, Carol & Debra Jeffers, Molly Brown, and Scott & Jen Brubaker for helping to teach and plan Bible School this year.
- To all those members who donated snack items to help support this year's Bible School.
- To the members who helped make sure the newly renovated Kitchen & Social Hall were in order so that our VBS week could go off without a hitch!

Dear Mellingers,

Thank you so much for the thoughts, cards, prayers and the fruit baskets after the passing of our father. We are blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Thanks, Jerry and Randy Zerbe and families

To our friends at Mellingers:

Thank you for the cards, prayers and altar flowers for me. They were all appreciated.

Sincerely, Carol Gehman

Dear members from Mellingers Church,

Thank you all for the prayers, phone calls, cards and visits while I was recovering from my car accident.

God Bless You All! Anita Soto

A special thank you to all those who worked with great dedication on our kitchen renovation. Bob Getz, Bill Nodeen, Bill and Betty Cordes, Roger and Shirley Sweigart, Dave and Elaine Haldeman, Sam and Nancy

Heiser, Property committee, Social Ministry and Church Council.

Dear Mellingers Friends and members,
I would like to thank everyone for your cards, thoughts and prayers after the passing of our mother Gladys. A special thank you to Social Ministry for providing a luncheon in less than ideal conditions with a kitchen under renovation. God bless and thank you all,
Nancy Eberly, Bob & June Eberly, and Janet & Ed Dewey

Dear Mellingers family,
Thank you so much for the beautiful altar flowers and I especially enjoyed the visit. Thanks again, Eugene Usner

To Mellingers,
Thank you so much for letting Daisy Troop 70293 use church space. We really appreciate it.

♥ Daisy Troop 70293

Dear friends at Mellingers Lutheran Church,
Greetings from Lutheran World Relief! We're so thankful for your partnership, and for your energy and enthusiasm for this ministry.

I'm excited to be able to share some details about where some of your items traveled in the the last year. You may already have spotted in your online tracker recorded that your personal care kits have gone to El Salvador. Your donations departed our warehouse on March 10, 2017.

LWR's partner, for this distribution in El Salvador, is Sinodo Luterano Salvadoreno. This distribution of kits will reach an estimated 10,000 people in Usulután, San Miguel and Moravian. These precious gifts will support rural communities and educational centers in these areas that have been greatly impacted by droughts, floods and landslides. Some of the families that will benefit from this distribution are participants in the Cocoa Alliance Project LWR implements.

I'm excited to be able to share some details about where some of your items traveled in the the last year. You may already have spotted in your online tracker recorded that your school kits have gone to Jordan. Your donations departed our warehouse on March 16, 2017.

LWR's partner in Pakistan, International Relief and Development (IRD), works to empower vulnerable communities to be self-sufficient and has implemented over 300 projects in Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia, and the Americas and the Middle East since 1998. This distribution of personal care kits and school kits will be going to Dar'a and Queneitra governorates in southern Syria. IRD is hoping to impact 56,583 internally displaced persons displaced without a year or multiple times, female – and child-headed households, and other vulnerable populations.

To learn more about shipments, visit quiltmap.lwr.org and click on the country to view a report. We will provide updates as we receive information from our partner. Thank you so much for your partnership in

bringing hope to our neighbors around the world. We thank God for you.

Melanie Gibbons, Quilt and Kit Ministry Manager

The Kitchen and Social Hall Committee thank all members of the congregation who have donated their time, talents and resources to make the project successful.

Special thanks to the following congregation workers: Bill and Betty Cordes, Jim Dryer, Bob and Barb Getz, Dave and Elaine Haldeman, Sam and Nancy Heiser, Skip and Linda Hutchinson, Shawn and Pat Jeffers, Larry Meckley, Randy and Vickie Meckley, Nevin McQuate, Bill Nodeen, Kelly Parrish, Gerry Petery, Barry Specht, and Rodger Sweigart.

Special thanks to the following contractors: Boy Scouts, Cocalico Builders, Kauffman Kitchen, Kring Martins Flooring, Cabinets, Lancaster Electric, Martindale Propane, Mike Gahrig, Randy Maurer, Stoner Services, Tom Smith, Vernon Schmuck, and Vertex Mechanical.



- ❖ Bob Getz reviewed the status on the Kitchen and Social Hall.
- ❖ We will continue to fundraise for the kitchen adding smaller donation cards to the kitchen tree.
- ❖ In mid-July, a branch fell from a tree and shorted out a power line. PPL put in a work order to have the area cleaned out. The property in which the power line is located does not belong to the church.
- ❖ The copper spouting on the main church has holes in it. We are currently obtaining estimates.
- ❖ Dave Wilhide resigned from lawn mowing responsibilities due to health issues.
- ❖ Sauder Fuel was sold to Haller Enterprises. This is a good time to check on fuel prices.
- ❖ The tire on the tractor was repaired by Gary Christ.
- ❖ There is a new simple thermostat in the social hall. It is set to 72 degrees all the time. You cannot turn it below 65 degrees.
- ❖ We will be applying for the Sweigart Grant again.
- ❖ We would like to try a sign-up sheet for the nursery starting September 10th. We need to investigate clearances to ensure they are up to date and ask for a volunteer nursery organizer.
- ❖ VBS went well. People were impressed with Scott Brubakers's curriculum and the condition of the social hall.
- ❖ Cards are being developed for those not attending often stating we are concerned about their spiritual health.
- ❖ We are exploring ways to improve the sound in the sanctuary to eliminate dead spots.
- ❖ Council was trained on chair lift usage.

- ❖ Council has decided to forego an August newsletter for an August/September newsletter.
- ❖ We will explore online giving.



WITHIN OUR
COMMUNITY



685 GOOD DRIVE

P.O. BOX 4125
LANCASTER, PA 17604-4125

PHONE: 717-295-3900 FAX: 717-391-9582

Current program information is available in the narthex and at the hospice [website](#).

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

September 2017

- **Lutheran Camping Night** at the York Revolution - September 16
- **Lower Susquehanna Synod's ALiVE** at Nawakwa - September 22-24

October 2017

- **Capture the Flag Spectacular** at Kirchenwald - October 1
- **Adult Study Retreat** at Nawakwa - October 3-5
- **Fall Foliage Day** at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa - October 22

November 2017

- **Annual Quilt Auction** at Nawakwa - November 5
- **Women's Craft Retreat** at Nawakwa - November 10-12

December 2017

- **Advent Day Apart** at The Wittel Farm - December 9

January 2018

- **Winter Youth Retreat** at Kirchenwald - January 5-7

 **Luther Acres**
A LutherCare Community
Independent Living • Personal Care
Memory Support • Healthcare • Rehab to Home

Explore Retirement Living 2017 Open House

Saturday, October 21 • 10 AM - 4 PM

Explore our vibrant senior living community during the 7th Annual Countywide Open House. Tour a variety of Cottages, Apartments and Personal Care Suites.

No RSVP required.

Snack & Chat

Thursday, September 28 • 2:00 PM

Please RSVP by Monday, September 25

Thursday, October 26 • 2:00 PM

Please RSVP by Monday, October 23

Enjoy a casual afternoon gathering with our Sales Counselors at The Round in the Muhlenberg Apartment Building. Have a delightful snack and chat about our vibrant, worry-free lifestyle at Luther Acres!

Please RSVP for Snack & Chat at 717.892.5287.

www.LutherAcres.org

600 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543
717.892.5287

Find LutherCare on:     



BACK TO SCHOOL TIME

As summer draws to a close and children start heading back to school, family life can get pretty hectic. It's important to remember – and share with your children – some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Getting to School

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is vitally important that they – and the motorists around them – take proper safety precautions.

Walkers »



- Walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk and you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic
- Before crossing the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Never dart out in front of a parked car
- Parents: Practice walking to school with your child, crossing streets at crosswalks when available
- Never walk while texting or talking on the phone
- Do not walk while using headphones

• Bike Riders »



- Always wear a helmet that is **fitted and secured properly**
- Children need to know the rules of the road: Ride single file on the right side of the road, come to a complete stop before crossing the street and walk the bike across
- Watch for opening car doors and other hazards
- Use hand signals when turning
- Wear bright-colored clothing

Bus Riders »



- Teach children the proper way to get on and off the bus
- Line up 6 feet away from the curb as the bus approaches
- If seat belts are available, buckle up
- Wait for the bus to stop completely before standing
- Do not cross in front of the bus if possible, or walk at least 10 feet ahead until you can see the other drivers

Drivers, Share the Road »



- Don't block crosswalks
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, and take extra care in school zones
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus

Teen Drivers



Teens crash most often because they are inexperienced. They struggle judging gaps in traffic, driving the right speed for conditions and turning safely, among other things. As your teen becomes a new driver, [learn more](#) about what you can do as a parent to keep them safe.

Prevent Injuries at School



Following are more discussion topics and resources for parents of school-age children available at <http://www.nsc.org/learn/pages/keep-children-safe-at-school.aspx>.

- [Backpack safety](#)
- [Playground safety](#)
- [Concussion risk from sports](#)
- [Head up, phone down](#)



Lower Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

An Urgent Message from Bishop James Dunlop

August 14, 2017

Monday after the 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I urge Lower Susquehanna Lutherans and people of goodwill everywhere to join me in condemning the bigotry, racism and hatred we witnessed in Charlottesville, Virginia, this past weekend. We denounce the violence that left a woman dead and dozens of people injured. We lift our prayers for all involved and pledge ourselves to work for peace.

We watched the news coverage with horror as neo-Nazis, KKK members, “white supremacists” and other figures from the so-called “alt-Right” from around the country -- many wearing uniforms and helmets and carrying shields -- converged on that University town. Ostensibly to protest the removal of a statue of Robert E. Lee from a public park, the “Unite the Right” rally served as a megaphone from which they spewed their abhorrent messages of intolerance and hate.

Our condemnation does not merely spring from the soil of common human decency, but also is deeply rooted in the teachings of our faith:

- ALL people are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27).
- Jesus commands us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:39).
- Jesus teaches us that neighbor includes people who are different from us, and that being a neighbor means actively caring for them (Luke 10:25 ff).

We applaud the courage and strength of counter-protesters who faced the purveyors of hatred and proclaimed a message of peace. Many were Christians and fellow Lutherans who provided witness in the name of the God of justice, mercy, and equality that we have come to know in Jesus.

At great risk to themselves, they summoned the courage to confront evil face-to-face in Charlottesville by marching, chanting, praying, carrying signs and signaling with their very bodies – this is NOT okay. But counter-protesting is not all they did. Some, such as Bishop William Gohl of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, also served water to thirsty people from both sides and offered prayer, conversation and a word of hope.

Jesus said in his Sermon on the Mount, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” (Matthew 5:9). Our brothers and sisters who were there in Charlottesville remind us that it often takes real guts to be a peacemaker.

Like them, we, too, need to be fearless in speaking the truth when we hear lies, proclaiming peace amid violence, invoking the power of love to condemn the timidity of hate, to strike the light that the darkness cannot overcome. And we need to do all this not only with our lips, but with our actions and our very lives.

Sitting in a jail cell in Birmingham, Alabama, following his arrest for nonviolent protest, Martin Luther King Jr. was bewildered by the silence of fellow Christians amid the struggle for civil rights for African Americans. He observed, “Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability; it comes through the tireless efforts of men willing to be co workers with God.”

Let us be peacemakers and co-workers with God.

Yours in Christ,

†James S. Dunlop, bishop
Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA
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ELCA commitment to confronting racism and anti-Semitism

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), stands against all forms of hatred and discrimination. The church believes that cultural, ethnic and racial differences should be seen and celebrated as what God intends them to be—blessings rather than means of oppression and discrimination.

The ELCA’s social statement “Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture” states: “Racism—a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice—is sin, a violation of God’s intention for humanity. The resulting racial, ethnic,

or cultural barriers deny the truth that all people are God's creatures and, therefore, persons of dignity. Racism fractures and fragments both church and society."

The social statement, adopted by the ELCA 1993 Churchwide Assembly, calls on the church to make confession for complicity, name the spiritual crisis at the roots, commit to change and make pledges to public witness, advocacy and action to confront racism.

"We recognize that the kind of violence we witnessed in Charlottesville last weekend is very real and affects all of us," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton. "We need to stand up firmly against racism and anti-Semitism, show up for and advocate with others. Jesus, who makes visible those who are invisible, is already there. We need to show up, and we need to listen in each of our communities."

The ELCA is a church that belongs to Christ and Christ's church universal, where there is a place for everyone. The job of Christ's people today is to celebrate the diversity of God's creative work and embrace all people in the spirit of love, whatever race or ethnicity, economic status or gender.

Read the Social Statement at the links below.

English | <http://bit.ly/2wNg6Tf>

Spanish | <http://bit.ly/2x1K05B>

ELCA Lower Susquehanna Synod

Temple Talk

What are You Hungry for?

When Deb and I walked into Mellingers about 4 or 5 years ago we had no idea what to expect. We were hungry. We found a feast fit for the "King", a very spiritual pastor, a warm, loving and welcoming congregation. We thought this is all very delicious, we did not know the feast would continue and it would help us both grow in the Holy Spirit. I was elected to council and drafted by the choir, both very fulfilling positions. I thought OK that's pretty good for a newbie what else could happen? Well low and behold someone was called into the ministry, opening up 2 spots at the ELCA Lower Susquehanna Synod. For some reason Pastor Tim approached Deb and I and ask if we would represent Mellinger's at the synod, we were more than happy and very much honored to fill this roll. Then I was ask to stand up here and tell you all about it. It was a 2 day seminar – get comfy. ☺

This was "A Very Eye Opening" experience.

Where is the largest Lutheran Church in the world? Ethiopia

Where is the fastest growing church in the world? Indonesia

What are we missing?

The ELCA has embarked on a rebuilding initiative titled R3. Check it out on the web.

Reform – Renew – Revision Romans 3:28 for we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

Unfortunately the ELCA is on a decline. What can we do to go in a different direction?

We may need to set aside our differences.

We may have some baggage we need to discard.

We need to build a strong structure to stabilize the church.

As a church, there are a few things we need to rely on;

At times, they can be very scary but remember;

FAITH

1. God is God
2. We aren't
3. What we aren't Jesus is
4. What Jesus is we get as a gift

HOPE

Romans 8:25 if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

God's Church does not have a mission, God's mission is to have a church.

What are you hungry for?

-submitted by Dan Sensenig

HOME CONNECTIONS

FRUGAL FAMILIES

Featuring a low-cost meal and a whimsical read. Relaxation and stress reduction are important to stay happy and healthy especially in tough economic or emotional times.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR

For those unable to attend the 30th Anniversary of Pastor Tim's Ordination celebration, below are the jokes from the Roast of Pastor Tim by his mentor, Reverend Dennis Trout.

WHO WERE THE 5 MOST CONSTIPATED CHARACTERS IN THE BIBLE?

1. Cain wasn't Abel.
2. David sat on the throne for 15 years.
3. Solomon – Heaven and Earth couldn't move him.
4. Moses took the tablets and went into the mountains.
5. Noah was in the ark for 40 days and 40 nights and all he passed was water.

NO TIME FOR A KNAPSACK FAITH MATTHEW 28:16-20

A ridiculous story made the rounds years ago. Most of you have heard the story, but I wonder if you have caught its religious significance.

It is about a pilot and three passengers--a boy scout, a priest, and an atomic scientist--and a plane that develops engine trouble in mid-flight.

The pilot rushes back to the passenger compartment and exclaims, "The plane is going down! The plane is going down! We only have three parachutes, and there are four of us!" The pilot adds, "I have a family waiting for me at home. I must survive!" With that, he grabs one of the parachutes and jumps out of the plane.

At this point, the atomic scientist jumps to his feet and declares, "I am the smartest man in the world. It would be a great tragedy if my life was snuffed out!" With that, he also grabs a parachute and exits the plane.

With an alarmed look on his face, the priest says to the Boy Scout, "My son, I have not family. I am ready to meet my Maker. You are still young with much ahead of you. You take the last parachute."

With this, the Boy Scout interrupts the priest, "Relax, Father. Don't say anymore. We're alright."

The priest asks, "How in the world can you say that we are alright."

The Boy Scout replies, "The reason why we're alright is that the world's smartest man just jumped out of the plane wearing my knapsack!"

Silly joke, but there is an important lesson to be derived from it. Metaphorically there are many smart people today, successful people, affluent people who are jumping out of airplanes wearing knapsacks instead of parachutes. That is, they are reaching for ideas that and philosophies that are appealing but...

They are knapsacks not parachutes. In other words, people today need something they can believe in. Tim, has dedicated his 30 years of ministry to just that --- making sure his congregation was and is well supplied with parachutes. God bless you "mentee" for a job well done! - Love Denny Trout

CHICKEN AND APPLE SAUSAGE



Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil, plus additional oil for cooking sausages
- 1 small onion, peeled and diced
- 2 apples, peeled, cored, diced
- 1 pound ground chicken
- 1/3 cup fresh sage leaves
- 3/4 teaspoon fresh ground pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon himalayan salt
- pinch of cinnamon

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 °F.
2. Heat olive oil in a medium skillet. Add the onion and apples, sautéing several minutes, until soft. Remove from heat and place in a large bowl.
3. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well, using your hands.
4. Form mixture into 8 patties and bake on a parchment lined cookie sheet for about 10-12 minutes, or until fully cooked.

Recommended pairing with eggs and or pancakes! They are also great as English Muffin sandwiches.

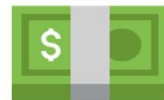
CLEAN CONSCIENCE

Environmentally sound and inexpensive cleaning tips and/or reusing tips

Clean Everything Lemon-Lime Spray

Juice one lemon and one lime. Strain the juice through a natural cloth or unbleached coffee filter into a measuring cup to remove all the pulp. (Otherwise, the pulp could clog the sprayer.) Add the lemon juice, lime juice, vinegar, and water to a spray bottle. Shake well. Spray it on whatever needs cleaning and let it sit for a few minutes to allow mineral deposits to loosen, grease to dissolve, grime to lift, and surfaces to be disinfected. Rinse well with water unless you're doing quick cleaning, or cleaning mirrors or windows, then simply buff dry with a clean soft cloth for a streak-free shine.

6TH TRAIT: CHEERFUL GIVING



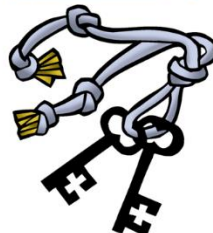
"God loves a cheerful giver ...



and God is able to provide you with every blessing."

2 Corinthians 7-8

The key to being a cheerful giver is to develop a good relationship with Jesus and understand that this is why we give in the first place... that God had given us Jesus!



CONTACT INFORMATION

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WEBSITE: www.mellingers.com

FACEBOOK: Please come check us out on Facebook. We are listed under **Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church**. Check with your children or grandchildren if you do not know how to use Facebook.



SEPTEMBER RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS SUGGESTION

Help an elderly or disabled
neighbor prepare their yard for
winter!