



# THE LAMPSTAND

Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church † 80 Gockley Road † Stevens, PA 17578  
Volume 9 Number 2 February 2016



## PASTOR'S MEDITATION

### A Whispered Prayer in a Loud and Angry World

I always advise people to begin their day by reading the Bible and praying. The reason for this is that this practice prevents them from looking at the morning newspaper.

One of the ways we cultivate our spiritual life is by eliminating distractions, which take us away from God. Don't get me wrong, I am not advocating being ignorant of world events or hibernating and not doing our moral and civic duty in society. Nor am I suggesting that there is anything wrong with journalism. Not at all. What I am suggesting is that often our vision is out of focus and we concentrate too much on what is wrong instead of being at peace in Christ.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of first Samuel the people of Israel focus on the problem, Goliath the giant, David focuses on God, the solution, and the shepherd boy defeats the giant!

As you read the Bible, try Philippians 4:4-7: "Rejoice in the Lord "always again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone, the Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ."

God's peace is beyond our understanding. Don't try to explain or interpret it or fit it into this wacky world's ways. It will protect you. Peace will protect you. Not guns or barricading yourself in a fortress, but God's peace will "guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ."

I have a friend from India and one evening he was sitting on the floor watching the news on television. I, too, was watching and was horrified by the accounts of

murders, disasters, terrorism, war, pestilence and general human sloth. I was puzzled because my friend was sitting on the floor laughing at all of this. Wondering exactly what he had put in his curry, I asked him why he was laughing.

"They don't tell you any of the good things that happened today. Only the bad. It is so silly." And he continued to chuckle right through my anxiety attack, three commercials and five reports of international and domestic tragedy.

I started thinking that maybe he wasn't the crazy one, that maybe it was me. Maybe it is all of us who run around in disaster mode even when there are no wonderful things happening all around us.

The story of Apostle Paul's letter to the people of the church in Philippi, which is now modern Greece, is an interesting one. Paul wrote the letter while he was in prison at a time, around 61 A.D., when the church was being persecuted by the Romans and was in danger from without as well as from within. Yet the letter of Philippians is one of the most joy-filled and uplifting Books of the Bible. Its theme is joy and rejoicing in the Lord and the word "joy" in its various forms occurs 16 times in the little four-chapter book which is only a few pages in length.

Certainly the problems which confront us are no longer greater than those which beset the Philippians. Take a look at that little book with your coffee in the morning. Before railing at injustice and hard times, take time each day to whisper a prayer in this loud and angry world. You and your little corner of the world will be better for it.

See you in Sunday School!

Pastor Tim Craven

## Prayer of the Month

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is error, truth; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; And where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; To be understood as to understand; To be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Dinner Church

Dinner Church will return April 27th!  
We encourage everyone to attend the Wednesday Evening Lent Services.

### North Lancaster

#### Lutheran Lent Services 2016

The North Lancaster Cluster of Lutheran Churches will begin their series of Lenten worship services on **Ash Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup>** when each congregation will conduct services at their own church.

This year's theme will be "**Old Testament Stories**".

The offering from the services will be donated to Homes of Hope in our area and to the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania.

Refreshments will follow each service.

**The services will begin at 7:00 pm.** If there is a question about the service because of the weather, please contact the host church after 10 am on the day of the service and information will be provided.

#### The series schedule is as follows:

**February 17<sup>th</sup>:** The service will be at Muddy Creek, Denver, with Pastor Tim Craven (Mellingers, Schoeneck) preaching on the topic "God Answers Job".

[\(717\) 336-2770](tel:7173362770)

**February 24<sup>th</sup>:** The service will be at Bergstrasse, Ephrata, with Pastor Joe Veres (Faith Denver) preaching on the topic "God Visits Abraham at the Oaks of Mamre".

[\(717\) 733-7808](tel:7177337808)

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>:** The service will be at St. Paul, Adamstown, with Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry (Muddy Creek, Denver) preaching on the topic "Ezekiel and the Valley of the Dry Bones".

[\(717\) 484-4885](tel:7174844885)

**March 9<sup>th</sup>:** The service will be at Mellingers, Schoeneck (Stevens) with Pastor Herb Lohr (Bergstrasse, Ephrata) preaching on the topic "Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea".

[\(717\) 336-8800](tel:7173368800)

**March 16<sup>th</sup>:** The service will be at St. John Center, East Earl, with Pastor Dennis Trout (Swamp, Reinholds) preaching on the topic "Ruth".

[\(717\) 445-5505](tel:7174455505)

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>:** This Holy Week service will be at Faith, Denver, with Pastor Sandy Gideon (St. Paul Adamstown and Interim Pastor at St. John Center, East Earl) preaching on the topic of "Micah Teaches Us Steadfastness".

[\(717\) 336-2141](tel:7173362141)

Included in the series in the **Ascension Day** service of Holy Communion which will be held Thursday evening **May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm at Swamp Lutheran Church in Reinholds.

[\(717\) 336-2849](tel:7173362849)

### Exciting Polka Mass April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Reverend Glenn Beard is well-known to us at Mellingers as he grew up at Swamp Reinholds and has served at Salem, Reamstown, Hospice and now Luther Care and has preached many times at Mellingers. Glenn is also in a wonderful polka band the Heidelberg Brass Band who do a great and popular Polka Mass which they will bring to Mellingers on Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> during our communion service at 9 am. Don't miss it. Bring friends!



#### We are in need of the following Worship

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

#### 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](mailto:mellingerslutheran@gmail.com).

**2016 Coffee Social Bakers Needed:** The 2016 Coffee Social charts are now available in the narthex. Please sign up for a date to provide after service treats.

**2016 Sound System Operators:** The 2016 Sound System charts are now available in the narthex.

Please sign up for your dates to run the sound system during our services.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**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>.

**Sunday School for All Ages:** Mellingers offers a wonderful Sunday School program for adults too. Come to church, stop in at coffee/cookie/snack time in the library and then come down the hall to class. Bring a friend!

**The Adult Sunday School Class** meets in the room located between the nursery and the choir room. All adults age 18 and above are invited and encouraged to attend this class. We began this fall by studying the Parables of Jesus. Stop on in – we'd love to have you!!!

### Tuesday Evening Bible Study Continues

The excellent "Life Principles" series by the Reverend Dr. Charles Stanley continues to be the topic of our Tuesday Evening Bible Study.

The study meets Tuesday evenings of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Faith Café from 7:00-8:30 pm. All are welcome!

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

### Pick Six Lenten Program

The Stewardship Committee will be heading the Pick-Six Lenten Program again this Lenten Season. During the 6 weeks of Lent we ask that you pick one of these 8 missions to contribute to. Giving Envelopes will be passed out for this special program.

### Youth Group Ongoing Programs

The Youth Group continues to collect soda can tabs to benefit Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.

They are also collecting Moo Money caps from Turkey Hill products purchased at Turkey Hill stores.

Containers for both of these items are in the Narthex.

**SOUP-er Bowl Sunday:** On Sunday February 7, the Youth Group will be collecting cans of soup to support Ephrata Area Social Services. They will also be accepting monetary donations for the Tackle Hunger initiative supporting Church World Service, which provides for

International Aid and Hunger programs. Please be generous in your support.

**North Lancaster Disaster Response Team Isaac's Night:** On Tuesday, February 9, the North Lancaster Disaster Response Team is having a Fundraiser at Ephrata Isaac's from 5:00PM until 9:00 PM. Forms will be available at church. Please support the group as it raises funds for its April work trip to the New Jersey Coast.

**Easter Eggs:** The Youth Group will be making and selling Peanut Butter Eggs again this year. The eggs will \$5.00 per 1 lb. box and be available for pick-up after church on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Look for order forms on the table in the Narthex.

**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 Sanctuary Fund
- ✠ The Kitchen Project Fund
- ✠ The Internship Fund (Vicar)
- ✠ Maintenance and Building Fund
- ✠ Youth Gathering 2018
- ✠ Campus Crusade for Christ
- ✠ Needy Fund

**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!

**Proper Use of Envelopes:** With more and more diverse projects and ministries ongoing the money counters have asked that you use the green offering envelopes only for regular giving. There is another white envelope you can use which can be marked for all other giving. They are at the Gockley Road entrance. Using the proper envelopes will save the money counters time and also insure that the financial statements are accurate. Thank you!

### Social Ministry Soap Collection

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. Thus far we have collected 247 bars of soap.



## Boy Scout Troop 115



# SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Saturday, March 5, 2016**

**3:00—7:00 PM**

*Come early: One FREE Dessert between 3 and 4 PM*

**Mellingers Lutheran Church**

80 Gockley Road, Schoeneck

**TICKETS FROM A SCOUT OR AT THE DOOR**

**ADULTS (12 & Up): \$8.00**

**CHILDREN 5—11: \$4.00**

**CHILDREN UNDER 5: FREE**

**Benefits Boy Scout Troop 115**



## HUDSON WISE'S JOURNEY AGAINST MEDULLOBLASTOMA

Hudson Wise is a 3-year-old boy living in the Ephrata area that was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes May 2015 and was also diagnosed with Medulloblastoma (brain cancer) August 2015.

For everyone who is asking how they can help, cards for Hudson are a great idea. He loves getting cards. Cards can be sent to 201 Heather Lane Ephrata, PA 17522.

Please pray that Hudson will get relief from the itching and mouth sores. Thank you all for the prayers for this little man♥.

If you would like to follow Hudson's Journey on Facebook type "Hudson's Journey against Medulloblastoma" into the search field.



## Thank You Notes

Everyone at Mellingers,  
Thank you for the cards, letters and visits. The flowers were a nice treat.  
Tony Ober

I would like to thank each member for giving me the opportunity to teach your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews the past 8 years. Thank you Pastor Tim for guiding me during my time as Co-Christian Education Director, I truly thank you. Teaching has given me a chance to refresh the bible lessons taught to me.

As we start a new year, I ask you to pray for the Christian Education department and Diane Adair as they work with the future leaders of our church.

Your sister in Christ, Shari Weaver

I would like to thank you for all the support that you have given me throughout last year. The Christmas cards, gifts and goodies are greatly appreciated. Thank you for all the prayers for injuries and illnesses my family has been recovering from throughout the past year too. We are very appreciative of our wonderful church family. We couldn't thank you enough for your support. Your thoughts, prayers and kindness mean so much to us.

God bless and Peace be with you, Kelly Parrish

Happy New Year and thank you all for the cards and gifts that you gave Shirl and me for Christmas. A special thank you to the Chancel Choir for the restaurant gift card. The choir knows that I am not hard to buy for because we eat out a lot. Again many thanks.  
— Carl

## THANK YOU NOTES FROM THE ANGEL TREE

My family and I would like to say thank you for the gifts for the kids. We greatly appreciate it! We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Thank you again.  
Sincerely, Wendy Morales Family

Thank you so very much for helping my family this year.  
"God Bless" Ashley Dellet

Thank you for your gifts this holiday season!  
God Bless You, Ty'Zae and Mrs. Lowden

# LIFE OF THE CHURCH

## Financial Report

### Receipts Compared To Budget January

	Receipts	Budget	Over(Under)
1/03/2016	5,617.00	4,082.80	1,534.20
1/10/2016	5,016.85	4,082.80	934.05
1/17/2016	3,565.97	4,082.80	(516.83)

### Receipts Compared To Budget Year To Date

	Receipts	Budget	Over(Under)
1/17/2016	14,199.82	12,248.40	1,951.42

## Faith Night at the Reading Fightin Phils

The Reading Fightin Phils invite you to the 2016 "Celebrate Your Faith Night" at FirstEnergy Stadium. After the game you and your group will have the unique opportunity to hear from Fightin Phils players as they discuss how their faith has impacted their life. **These impactful and engaging conversations with our players will take place behind home plate after the game on June 30th.**

During the game, each group will have their name announced over our public address system along with one member from each church or synagogue having the chance to throw out a first pitch during the pre-game ceremonies and receive an autographed baseball.

There is currently an interest survey on the table in the Narthex. Once we see what the interest is, the congregation will be notified as to how they can purchase their tickets.

We are offering 2 options:

- **Bumbino's Picnic Buffet:** \$25 (for groups of 20+) Includes 2 ½ hour buffet and seat in the left field picnic area
- **Yellow Box Seat Only:** \$10 (for groups of 20+)

Contact Gail Harker with any questions.

## American Heroes Flight 93 Memorial and Memorial Chapel Trip

**Saturday, June 4, 2016**

**from approximately 6:45 am to 7:00 pm**

Package includes Motorcoach Transportation, Step-on-guide and guide gratuity, Flight 93 Memorial Chapel, Luncheon and driver's gratuity.

More information is included on the registration forms in the narthex. Please see Linda Weaver if you have any questions.

Price is \$105 per person. Registration deadline is May 7, 2016.

## Prayer Corner

Interested in receiving or making prayer chain updates throughout the week? Visit our website at [www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org) and sign-up for our online prayer chain and/or online pet prayer chain. If you don't have a computer, please call the church office to become part of

the phone prayer chain. Please note the pet prayer chain is only available online at this point in time.

## 2016 Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships

The 2016 Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship charts are now available on the bulletin board at the Gockley Road entrance. Sign-up now for the date you wish to dedicate!



- ❖ Officers were elected, contact information was confirmed and usher schedule was set.
- ❖ Thank you cards were signed for Shari Weaver and the Petery's.
- ❖ Bear Mill Estates, previously Country Lane, will no longer be able to provide us with altar flower as of the end of January. Kelly Parrish will be asked to find a new florist.
- ❖ Mike Leed has asked that we allocate unbudgeted expenses to proper categories, such as trash removal.
- ❖ The revised secretary job description with an additional 1-week vacation was approved by council.
- ❖ Facebook Insights were shared with council showing the need to maintain digital connections with those who would otherwise not receive our message.
- ❖ Church boxes will be implemented to collect for hearing aids for the service through Feb. 7, 2016.
- ❖ Lenten Service Schedule was reviewed.
- ❖ Dave Henry encouraged council to proceed with the vision planning process.



WITHIN OUR  
COMMUNITY

**HOSPICE**  
& COMMUNITY CARE  
*Founded as Hospice of Lancaster County*

**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](http://www.mellingers.org).

## The Lutheran Camping Corporations of Central Pennsylvania

### February 2016

- **Winter Fun Day** at Kirchenwald - February 7
- **Lenten Day Apart** at The Wittel Farm - February 13

### March 2016

- **Quilt Retreat** at Kirchenwald - March 11-13
- **Summer Camp Open House** at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa - March 20

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## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

presented by the Criminal Justice System  
Ministry of the Lower Susquehanna Synod

### Judging Blinds ♦ Loving Illuminates

#### What does Restorative Justice mean to you? Want to learn more?

Join keynote speaker Christopher Fitz for a morning of discovery about the principles and practices of restorative justice, along with breakout sessions addressing domestic violence, Healing Communities, Restorative Justice in Action, and a presentation about Diakon's youth and young adult programs.

**Saturday, February 27, 2016**

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Registration opens at 8:30a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church  
2000 Chestnut Street  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

There is no charge for this event, but you are encouraged to bring a young adult book for a juvenile detention center donation.

#### Christopher Fitz, Executive Director Center for Community Peacemaking

The Center for Community Peacemaking has been creating a culture of peace in Lancaster and beyond through restorative justice practices like:

- Victim-Offender Conferencing brings together those harmed by crime with those who offended to "make things right."
- Making Peace offers youth and their parents an opportunity to practice healthy communication with their peers and each other.
- Peacemaking Circles help to transform conflict.

Visit [www.lss-elca.org](http://www.lss-elca.org) for more information and registration details!



check Leo's out go to [www.leoshelpingpaws.org](http://www.leoshelpingpaws.org)

Thanks so much, Dave & Joyce Wilhide

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## Help the Hounds

Walkers can help Leo's Helping Paws by downloading the app **ResQWalk** on your Smart Phone. Please turn location settings on and choose Leo's Helping Paws as the group receiving your steps. We help shelters in need with food, treats, bedding, and toys. If you want to

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## 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Reformation Tour of Germany June 16-26, 2017

Pastor Sandy Gideon will be leading a group to Germany (and Switzerland). Some of the places will include: Rhine River Cruise, Gutenberg Museum, Worms and St. Peter's church, Heidelberg Castle, Strasbourg (France), Zurich (Switzerland) & Neuschwanstein Castle, Zugspitz (the highest point in Germany), Augsburg, Daschau concentration camp, Wartburg Castle, Erfurt, Bach Museum, Augustinian Monastery, Wittenberg & the Castle Church, & Berlin. You can read more details at:

<http://www.pilgrimtours.com/groups/gideonreformation.htm>

I also have brochures (& registration forms) I can mail to you if you would like to read more just call my house at 484-1172. The price of \$3,519 includes airfare, lodging, transportation, guides, 2 meals a day, plus more. You must be registered before Jan. 2017. If you have any questions please call as this will be a great year to visit Germany along with others from Lancaster County.

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## CHURCH AT LARGE



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

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## ELCA Happenings

### [ELCA presiding bishop urges church to have 'difficult conversations' around racism](#) 1/20/2016

CHICAGO (ELCA) – The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has called on its 3.7 million members to "be the church that models for the rest of this country what it means to have these difficult conversations" about

racial inequality. Eaton made her remarks during a Jan. 14 live webcast, "Confronting Racism: A Holy Yearning."

Eaton and co-host William B. Horne, a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Clearwater, Fla., presented the one-hour webcast, which addressed the complexities and implications of racism in the context of the criminal justice system. This was the ELCA's second webcast focused on racism.

Joining Eaton and Horne for the one-hour conversation were: Judge Yolanda Tanner, an ELCA member who serves as an associate judge for the Baltimore City Circuit Court; Leonard Duncan, an ELCA member and student at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia; and Charlene Guiliani, an ELCA member and former police sergeant who is a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

During the webcast Duncan, Guiliani and Tanner shared their experiences and careers in the criminal justice system. A portion of the webcast was also dedicated to answering questions submitted via email, Facebook and Twitter.

Eaton said that, although the webcast "serves as a way to keep the conversation going, it provides an opportunity for members and congregations to go deeper in our listening and in building relationships. We must commit to looking for ways to continue the conversation in our own congregations and communities."

"But it's not going to work if we don't, if you don't, if all of us don't see that we are inextricably bound to each other, and as Paul says, 'When one member suffers, all suffer and when one rejoices, all rejoice.' When we can see that our story is the same and intertwined with everyone else's story, and, more to the point, that it's God story for us, then I think we might see not only the urgency but the beauty and holiness of this moment in time," she said.

"Why can't the ELCA be the church that models for the rest of this country what it means to have these difficult conversations?" Eaton asked. "And trusting in our baptism, also believe and understand that we will never be snatched from Christ's hand. I challenge us to do that."

The webcast and resources about this church's ongoing racial justice work are available at [ELCA.org/webcast](http://ELCA.org/webcast).

### [ELCA presiding bishop visits Chicago Immigration Court](#)

12/30/2015

CHICAGO (ELCA) – After a December visit to the Chicago Immigration Court of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), reaffirmed the ELCA's commitment to work as "church together" to bear witness and respond to the significant number of children and families fleeing Central America and Mexico.

While the number of children and families crossing the U.S. southern border is down from the surge in 2014, the numbers have been rising again and reflect a 106 percent increase from this same period last year.

Eaton attended court to observe the ELCA's

Guardian Angels program, a court-watch program that was started by the ELCA Southwest California Synod and has been replicated and implemented at the ELCA churchwide office in Chicago. As part of the program, English-speaking and Spanish-speaking volunteers attend immigration hearings to document proceedings and to meet with families outside of the courtroom to pray together, answer questions and provide information on legal assistance.

"In the short time we were in the courtroom, the judge heard 20 cases," Eaton said. "In her conversation with us during a break she told us that the myth of Central American countries exporting gang members and drug dealers needs to be dispelled. The judge hears hundreds of cases each week, and in her experience, she has not seen violent criminals. Rather it is children and families who are trying to find a new life free of the chaos and fear in their countries of origin."

Judge Jennie Giambastiani, who presided over the hearings Eaton attended, said "the need is great" for legal representation for the number of people arriving in the United States.

"The Guardian Angels program brings some measure of hope and comfort to children and families as they go through our legal system," said Eaton. "Through prayer and presence in the waiting area and the courtroom, these people know that God is with them – Emmanuel."

### [ELCA colleges and universities network established](#)

12/22/2015

CHICAGO (ELCA) – Lifting up this church's commitment to the 500-year-old Lutheran intellectual tradition, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has created the Network of ELCA Colleges and Universities, established in collaboration with the ELCA's 26 colleges and universities to promote their shared mission and identity.

"We needed a better vehicle for our schools collectively to be the community that is ELCA higher education," said the Rev. Mark Wilhelm, ELCA program director for colleges and universities. "The network provides a new structure to help maintain a dialogue among the schools about their shared mission and identity."

The network will be overseen by a board of directors composed of the presidents of the 26 institutions and an executive director. Most authority will be delegated to an executive committee made up of from four to eight presidents, along with the executive director. Wilhelm has been named the network's first executive director.

"The newly formed network of ELCA colleges and universities is groundbreaking," said Michael Maxey, president of Roanoke College in Salem, Va., and chairperson of the executive committee. "We believe it will develop and sustain a stronger, more viable vision of Lutheran higher education in the ELCA. The links between and among our colleges and universities and the ELCA will make all of us stronger, separately and collectively."

"With all the pressures on higher education today, I

hope that the network will assist ELCA colleges and universities to continue as effective institutions of character development, citizen development and faith development,” said Wilhelm, highlighting distinct characteristics of Lutheran higher education.

“Education is for the whole person – body, mind and spirit. Making such an education available through ELCA colleges and universities is one of the main vehicles by which this church, to use Luther’s terms, serves the neighbor,” he said.

Wilhelm emphasized that the network is not intended to operate as a central system of higher education similar to many state university systems.

“Each of the schools will continue to be responsible for its own governance and operations, but the network will facilitate collaborative work,” he said.

“The creation of a formal network of our 26 ELCA colleges and universities will certainly enable us to promote the distinctive character and identity of Lutheran higher education across our institutions, but more importantly it has the promise of creating new, shared opportunities for our students and faculty,” said Paul Pribbenow, president of Augsburg College in Minneapolis and a member of the executive committee. “Together in partnership our institutions will develop curricular and co-curricular offerings that model the abundant resources found across the network. That promise is what has energized my deep commitment to the creation of the network.”

One example of a co-curricular initiative for undergraduates is the discussion around awareness of interfaith relationships.

“To be an educated person in this country means you are able to live among people of many faiths and many cultures without carrying some of the negative legacies of the past around how we treat people who are different than we are,” said Wilhelm. “I hope that through common conversation and a shared mission we will enhance our capacity to improve the student experience of interfaith engagement.”

“I think this will be an important new day” said Wilhelm. “I hope the network will lift up more publicly and collectively what our schools already do exceptionally well.”

## 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.**

#### Bulletin Bloopers

- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

- Evening massage - 6 p.m.
- The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
- The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.



### FIG AND GOAT CHEESE SALAD WITH BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE

- 4 ounces of goat cheese cut into chunks
- 10-15 figs quartered
- 4 cups of arugula
- 1/2 cup of walnuts (preferably toasted)

#### VINAIGRETTE INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup of good olive oil
- 3 tablespoons of balsamic vinegar
- 1 clove of garlic minced
- 1 teaspoon of minced shallot
- 1/2 teaspoon of salt
- 1/2 teaspoon of dijon mustard

1. Combine vinaigrette ingredients in a mason jar and shake until emulsified.
2. Combine salad ingredients in large bowl.
3. Dress with vinaigrette and serve immediately.

<http://taliabunting.com/fig-and-goat-cheese-salad/>

### CLEAN CONSCIENCE

**Environmentally sound and inexpensive cleaning tips and/or reusing tips**

#### Relieve your tired eyes

Revitalize tired, achy, or puffy eyes. Soak two tea bags in warm water and place them over your closed eyes for 20 minutes. The tannins in the tea act to reduce puffiness and soothe tired eyes.

<http://www.rd.com/home/22-ways-to-use-tea-for-beauty-home-and-garden/>



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Timothy Craven 738-3838

**Directors of Christian Education:**

Diane Adair 715-3124

**Director of Music:** Carl Tobias 484-0127

**Secretary:** Kelly Parrish 336-8800

### CHURCH COUNCIL

**President:** Mike Leed 475-8092

**Vice-President:** Linda Weaver 336-6177

**Recording Secretary:** Kelly Parrish 336-8800

**Members:** Troy Adair 715-3126

Jen Brubaker 940-3961

Nancy Eberly 945-2895

Ronald Gehr 733-2920

Brittany Hartlove 715-3127

Dave Henry 610-856-1709

Kristi Leonhard 733-1260

Jennifer Mentzer 538-9932

Dan Sensenig 615-0924

David Weidman 336-4271

### LEADERS

**Auditors:** Lynn Spotts 721-7644

**Treasurer:** Skip Hutchinson 733-5029

**Assistant Treasurer:** Nick Rampolla 484-855-3543

**Financial Secretary:** Jill Showalter 336-5032

**Assistant Financial Secretary:** TBD

**Youth Group Advisors:** Pastor Tim 738-3838

Gail Harker 738-0047

**Altar Guild:** Barr Family 626-0388

**Altar Flowers:** Nancy Hain 336-6270

**Special Flowers:** Melanie Brubaker 859-4849

**Communion Assistant Coordinator:**

Kelly Parrish 336-8800

**Wedding Coordinator:** Brittany Hartlove 715-3127

**Camp Person:** Kim Craven 738-3838

**Newsletter Editor:** Kelly Parrish 336-8800

**Web Site Editor:** Office Staff 336-8800

**Lawn Care:** Dave Wilhide 733-7757

**Snow Removal:** Randy Meckley 336-3230

**Scout Liaison:** David Haldeman 733-8551

**Scripture Reader Coordinator:**

Dorothy Hutchinson 336-2563

**Greeter Coordinator:** Fay Weitzel 336-2124

**Blood Bank:** Linda Weaver 336-6177

**Blood Pressure Check Coordinator:**

Susan Specht 336-4601

**Coffee Social:** John Hutchinson 336-2563

**Money Counters:** Nancy Eberly 945-2895

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Worship and Music:** Nancy Hain 336-6270

**Social Ministry:** Betty Cordes 335-3624

Shirley Sweigart 336-6803

**Stewardship:** TBA

**Budget:** Nick Rampolla 445-0487

**Endowment/Memorial:** Randy Brubaker 733-9222

**Property:** Randy Meckley 336-3230

**Bible Study Breakfast:**

Skip Hutchinson 733-5029

### SCOUT LEADERS

**Troop 115:** Sheldon Brubaker 721-3863

**Cub Master:** Jennifer Neidigh 314-0866

**WEBSITE:** [www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org)

**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.

### LISTEN TO THE SERVICE FROM HOME

No special equipment is required for usage and is at no cost to the caller as long as Mellingers is not a long distance call for you. Instructions for use are as follows:

1. A few minutes before the church service starts, dial 336-4191.
2. If the phone rings more than four times, the system at the church is not yet turned on. Please hang up and try again in a few minutes.
3. If you get a busy signal, this means the system is full with other callers.
4. If the system answers, please listen quietly and do not hang up for at least ten minutes. This is because if the first person listens for only a few minutes and then hangs up before others call in, the system will shut down and no one else will be able to call in for that service.
5. Please be aware that others who call in using this service can hear you speak. You should not talk to other people on the line but no one at Mellingers can hear you.
6. You may listen as long as you like. Just hang up when you are finished.



## BIRTHDAYS

- February 1:** Vincent Snavely  
Harry Wentzel
- February 2:** Horst Berendt  
Brenton Geske
- February 5:** Sandra Schaeffer
- February 7:** Jason Schlott
- February 8:** Thomas Parrish  
Christopher Parrish
- February 10:** Sam Heiser  
Debra Jeffers  
Grace Pfautz
- February 11:** Brittany Hartlove  
Taylor Starling
- February 13:** Brittany Neidigh  
Christopher Wagner
- February 14:** Erica Drach  
Vivian Gehr
- February 15:** Patsy Goding
- February 16:** Greta Harting  
Jay Stoltzfus
- February 17:** Brian Adams
- February 20:** Kevin Kieffer
- February 21:** Amanda Guigley  
John Leisey
- February 22:** Deklan Fischbach  
Carl Usner
- February 24:** Florence Gehr  
Richard Raffauf
- February 25:** Joyce Auker  
Linda Netzley
- February 26:** Scott Brubaker
- February 28:** Liam Bell
- February 29:** Desiree Wagner



### Card Shower

Grace Pfautz's daughter has asked that we celebrate her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 10<sup>th</sup> with a card shower. Please send a card to her mailing address below. Thank you!

Grace Pfautz  
c/o Bethany Manor  
99 Bethany Road  
Room 117A  
Ephrata, PA 17522

For God so loved the world  
that he gave his  
only  
begotten  
Son,  
that whoever  
belleves  
in him should not perish  
but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

**IN THE CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER ON SUNDAY...After 7:30 am**, please call the church at 336-8800, visit our website at [www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org) or check our Facebook page (Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church) to see if we will be holding services on that day.



## ANNIVERSARIES

- February 5, 1981**  
Robert & Gail Harker
- February 12, 1961**  
Ronald & Joyce Heckman
- February 14, 2004**  
Dan & Deb Sensenig
- February 18, 1978**  
Scott & Jeanette Engle
- February 19, 1950**  
Charles & Ruth Messner

## SPECIAL DATES

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, *February 7, 2016*
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, *February 7, 2016*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 10, 2016*
- First Sunday in Lent, *February 14, 2016*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2016*
- Presidents Day, *February 15, 2016*
- Second Sunday in Lent, *February 21, 2016*
- Third Sunday in Lent, *February 28, 2016*



## VALENTINE'S DAY HIGH TEA

**February 14, 2016  
12:00 Noon**

**All Are Welcome  
Sign up in Narthex**

**FEBRUARY 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Sunday School 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group	<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Women in Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Social Ministry @ Shirley Sweigart's House 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b> 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Pastor Tim with Bishop Dunlop @ Hershey Hotel 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Bible Study	<b>3</b> 8:45 AM Tapestry Homeschool Coop Makeup Date	<b>4</b> 3:30 PM Pastor Tim Communion @Ephrata Manor 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Boy Scout Sunday</b> <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Pick 6 Temple Talk 9:00 AM Soup-er Bowl Suda 10:30 AM Sunday School	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Women in Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 7:00 PM Council Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 8:45 AM Tapestry Homeschool Coop 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Communion and Imposition of Ashes	<b>11</b> 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30 AM Bible Study Breakfast @ Oregon Dairy
<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Sunday School 12:00 PM Valentine's Tea Luncheon 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group	<b>15</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> 9:30 AM Women in Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>16</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Bible Study	<b>17</b> 8:45 AM Tapestry Homeschool Coop 7:00 PM Lenten Cluster Service at Muddy Creek, Denver	<b>18</b> 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:00 AM - 10:00 AM Schoeneck Area Lion's Club Health Screening
<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Sunday School	<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Women in Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Worship & Music Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Bible Study	<b>24</b> 8:45 AM Tapestry Homeschool Coop 7:00 PM Lenten Cluster Service at Bergstrasse, Ephrata	<b>25</b> 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>26</b> 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM Jeffers - Social Hall	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Sunday School 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group	<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Women in Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:45 AM Tapestry Homeschool Coop Makeup Date 7:00 PM Lenten Cluster Service at St Paul, Adamstown	<b>3</b> 3:30 PM Pastor Tim Communion @Ephrata Manor 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>4</b> <b>World Day of Prayer</b>	<b>5</b> Boy Scout Spaghetti Supper

**Give First**



Remember the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand.

A little boy shared his food.

He gave first, not from the leftovers in his pockets.

He gave first that others might not go hungry.

And Jesus welcomed his gift and began to share it among them.

The funny thing is that after he gave first, and others gave there was more than enough.

There were leftovers! Even these were gathered up and treated with care.

Giving is not the leftover bits.

It is the whole way we share our lives.

So now I bring the first of the fruits that you, O Lord, have given me.

Deuteronomy 26:10 ♦ S.C.

Hymn Suggestion: 681 in the ELW