



PASTOR PONDERABLES - NOVEMBER 2023

"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8, 31-32

Reformation Sunday is approaching as I write this newsletter. Maybe, too often, for Lutherans, this becomes a celebration of our heritage, of the work of Martin Luther, of what happened 500 years ago. It is a shame if that is all it is. Reformation Sunday should be a celebration of ongoing reform in the church as well as in each of us, the work of the Holy Spirit, the freedom to change and develop, to become "a new creation."

Luther, in his catechism, taught us the idea of a daily baptism. He pointed to Paul's text in Romans 6, when Paul wrote, "We were buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." Luther explained that in baptism, "the old person in us ... is drowned, and [at the same time] daily, a new person is to come forth." As members of the body of Christ, our individual transformation leads to reformation of both our own lives and the life of the church.

When we confess our sins, we "confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves." The idea of bondage to sin was important for Luther and his understanding of the human condition. He took to heart Paul's letter to the Galatians where he writes. "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." For Luther, because of sin, we are bound (or captive) in many ways: we are bound by our mistakes and sins, bound by the pain of loss or injustice, bound by our conscience, bound by our understandings of right and wrong, bound by our grudges and grievances. We are bound, held captive, enslaved by so many things.

The opposite of this bondage is freedom. This a freedom to change, to grow, to become, "a new creation." Developmental psychologists argue that we are constantly developing a sense of ourselves and the world around us. Education leaders recognize that even the smallest of children have some understanding of what they perceive, but that as we grow older, our understandings develop. Is there a moment when we tell ourselves that we are content with the understanding we have and refuse to change our understanding? Is there a moment when we submit to this yoke and become bound?

For Luther, our human nature leads us into this slavery to the past and to our own myopic vision, but Christ frees us. Christ comes to us as a living Word, a promise, that we are God's and forever in God's hands. Jeremiah describes this promise as a new covenant in which God says "and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." For Jeremiah, it would no longer be our understandings of right and wrong that we argue about and force on each other, but the law written on our hearts that would guide us in our life and in our relationships. This law would be based on the premise that "we have all fallen short of the Glory of God" (Paul in Romans) and that "God would forgive our shortcomings and make them a thing forgotten." (Jeremiah again). This law would be the fulfillment of God's ancient commandment to love one another.

The freedom we have in Christ is a freedom that presents itself every morning when we wake up. This is a freedom that allows individuals and communities to change their narrative and to move into the future, which, in faith, belongs to God. This freedom in Christ is a freedom from fear and for transformation and Reformation. And reformation, as understood by the church, is for our own well-being, but even more for the well-being of others.

Pastor Dietrich, November 2023



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roger L. Kurtz

Our worship this month will begin with the commemoration of All Saints Sunday on November 5 and end with the celebration of Christ the King Sunday on November 26. A number of musical highlights have been planned for these two festival Sundays.

On All Saints Sunday, a 15-minute prelude will precede our liturgy, during which time those in attendance are invited to come forward and light candles in memory of departed loved ones. Please begin the candle lighting when the music starts and use this time for quiet reflection. Jeff Schreiber, our in-house percussionist, will provide timpani accompaniment for three hymns sung as part of our service, and the Jerusalem Choir will offer "Sing with All the Saints in Glory" by William Bradley Roberts as the anthem.

On Christ the King Sunday, Grayston Ives' "Intrada" will be featured as the prelude and Antonio Soler's "The Emperor' Fanfare" will be played as the postlude. "Strike the Cymbal," an anthem arrangement by Austin C. Lovelace of a work originally written by Franz Schubert, will be sung by our choir.

Invite your family and friends to attend what promises to be a memorable concert showcasing Two Rivers Chamber Music String Quartet on Sunday, November 19, at 3:00 p.m. The ensemble's varied and enjoyable programming draws upon both classical repertoire and arrangements of popular music. Included in their concert will be several "Serenades" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, along with some modern favorites from the Beatles and Coldplay. (Audio and video recordings of the group can be heard/seen at their website: tworiverschambermusic.com.) A free-will offering will be received during intermission to help defray expenses and support our ongoing Music at Jerusalem Concert Series.

Founded by identical twin brothers Michael and Matthew Polonchak in 2013, Two Rivers Chamber Music String Quartet has quickly become one of the most sought-after chamber music ensembles in the Mid-Atlantic region. The quartet maintains an active schedule presenting full-length concerts and performing for wedding ceremonies and receptions in the greater Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. areas.

As a church, we are extremely grateful for the generosity of those members and friends of the congregation who have served as patrons for our concerts during past seasons. Since the series is not subsidized through our church budget, voluntary contributions have permitted us to offer concerts of great music free of admission charge year after year. If you would like to assist in continuing this important community outreach, please return the bottom portion of this page with your donation to the church office or give to Roger Kurtz by Sunday, November 12th to ensure acknowledgement in the November 19th program. Checks may be made payable to the "Jerusalem Church Music Ministry Fund." All gifts, large or small, are most appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!



Music at Jerusalem Concert Series

Yes, I would like to help sponsor the Music at Jerusalem Series. My contribution is enclosed. Please list my name/our names in the program as _____.

November Worship Leaders

	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister/Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Zoom Monitor
Nov. 5	Jean Slaymaker	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
Nov. 12	Emma Miller	Brenda Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.	Zachary Fetter	
Nov. 19	Brenda Fetter		Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
Nov. 26		Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		

HOME COMMUNION MEMBERS

Barry Becker

Maple Farms Nursing
Center (Rm 41)
604 Oak Street
Akron, PA 17501
Birthday: August 14

Lillian Logeman

Ephrata Manor
99 Bethany Rd.
Room #121.
Ephrata, PA 17522
223-264-8805
Birthday: August 31

Norma Rhoads

2646 Camp Road
Manheim, PA 17545
717-626-8117
Birthday: September 24

Doris Witwer

Viva Senior Living
150 Kempton Ave., Room 252
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-901-6026
Birthday: February 20

Lititz-Warwick Community Chest Food Bank

November Suggestions:

- *Laundry Detergent**
- *Shampoo and Conditioner (2 in 1 products are fine)**
- *Toothpaste and Tooth Brushes**



Items can be placed in the drop box on the first floor by the elevator - thank you!

Property Committee Update

1. Portico Repair Complete
2. Portico height signs installed.
3. AC options/estimates obtained from Haller and submitted to council as requested

Adult Forum Schedule November

We are using the Augsburg Fortress Adult Bible Studies.

Everyone is welcome to join at 9 am.

- Nov. 5 - No Adult Forum
- Nov. 12 - God Demands a Just Society
- Nov. 19 - Hope for the Future
- Nov. 26 - Living in Faith

November, 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	3 Apple Dumpling Pick Up BULC 2 to 4 pm	4
5 All Saint's Sunday/ Homecoming 10:30 am Holy Communion Luncheon 11:30 am Daylight Saving Time	6	7 Election Day 	8 Finance Meeting	9 Bus Trip to Seafarer's International New York Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	10	11 Veteran's Day 
12 Time after Pentecost Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	13	14 7 pm Council Meeting	15 December Newsletter Deadline	16 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	17	18 Holiday Bazaar & Pancake Breakfast at Luther Acres
19 Time after Pentecost Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	20	21	22 	23 Thanksgiving Day Church office closed	24	25
26 Christ the King Sunday Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	27	28 	29	30 Advent Devotion at Brickerville Choir Rehearsal 7 pm		

PRAYER CONCERNS



Let us pray for: Christine and Andy Anderson, Barry Becker, Nate and Crystal, Kim Cravens, Spencer Ehrhart, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Sharon Levering, Lillian Logeman, Joy McCurty and Pam Cramer, Byron Miller, Judy Perry, Norma Rhoads, Lisa Riley, Greg Summers, Mary Valimont, Neal Vital, Tracey Whitney, and Doris Witwer. Be with military personnel, first responders, healthcare workers, the people of Ukraine, the people of Turkey, the people of Syria, and the people of Maui, Hawaii.

Please call the church office or Janice Styer if you would like a name added or removed from our prayer list.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2-Michael Frantz	14-Jill Clubb
2-Leslie Miller	16- Sue Fetter
10-Mel Ravegum	23-Lois Mearig
	30-Tracey Whitney

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ross & Allison Clubb	11/16/13
Jill & Brad Clubb	11/19/83
Larrie & Emma Miller	11/25/61
Lamar & Sharon Levering	11/25/92



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

Alicia Scheid 11/4/60	Zachary Fetter 11/6/05
Tamara DeWitt 11/4/01	Lois Mearig 11/9/33
Christopher DeWitt 11/4/01	Jean Slaymaker 11/9/52
Kayla DeWitt 11/4/01	Jill Clubb 11/23/61
Eryn Murphy 11/6/05	



November 2023 Readings



Nov. 5
**All Saints Sunday
 Year A**
 First Reading
 Revelation 7:9-17
 Psalm
 Psalm 34:1-10, 22
 Second Reading
 1 John 3:1-3
 Gospel
 Matthew 5:1-12

Nov. 12
**Time after Pentecost
 Year A**
 First Reading
 Amos 5:18-24
 Psalm
 Psalm 70
 Second Reading
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Gospel
 Matthew 25:1-13

Nov. 19
**Time after Pentecost
 Year A**
 First Reading
 Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
 Psalm
 Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
 Second Reading
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Gospel
 Matthew 25:14-30

Nov. 26
**Christ the King
 Year A**
 First Reading
 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Psalm
 Psalm 95:1-7a
 Second Reading
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Gospel
 Matthew 25:31-46

September 25, 2023

Dear Friends at Jerusalem Lutheran Church

For many years except the year of COVID our WELCA members at Brickerville have been having a Christmas Bazaar. The proceeds benefit different charities. This year they are Homes of Hope, Four Girls on a Mission, LWR International Disaster and our Capitol Campaign which will be used to provide much needed repairs for our church. We would like to invite you with your God given talents to participate in this event.

The date of the holiday bazaar is December 2, 2023, from 8 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Some of the items needed to sell at the bazaar are tree trims, gently used unwanted Christmas items, (example: ornaments, wrapping paper, etc.), sewn items, wreaths, plants, baked goods, cakes, pies (especially cookies), jelly, candy, wood items, dried flowers, herbs (which can be cut and put into bunches), dog and cat treats, and other craft ideas.

The next meeting for the Bazaar is Thursday Oct 19, at 10:00 a.m. in our Fellowship Hall. Both men and women are invited to attend. We welcome any ideas you have to make the Bazaar a success. My hope is that we'd continue to work together on this event in the future as God's Work Our Hands.

If there are questions you need answered, please contact the Church (717-627-2202) or e-mail bulc@dejazzd.com and I will get back to you.

Peace and Blessings to All,
Gloria Hostetter, Bazaar Chairperson

Advent Devotion at Brickerville

Christmas is coming!! Too soon? Maybe. But Advent begins at the end of November, and plans have been set to hold a Thursday morning Advent Devotion. Please come and join this spiritual practice of preparation. This will be held jointly with Brickerville United with whom we have a shared ministry. Come and help build this partnership!

Every Thursday, we will meet at Brickerville United Lutheran Church.

11:30: We will begin with a Matins service in the sanctuary.

12:00: We will move to the fellowship hall for soup and bread.

12:30: We will have a short Bible Study prepared by ELCA's World Hunger.

Thursday Nov 30 is the first one. Christmas is coming!

Thank you to all who donated to the Maui Hawaii Fire Disaster. A total of \$875 was collected and our congregation will match that amount bringing the total amount of the donation to \$1750.00.

A steering committee has been formed for our congregation. This committee will help coordinate the relationship between BULC and JELC. The committee members are Dave Carson, Kathy Schreiber, Jean Slaymaker, and J.D. Wissler. Thank you all for serving.



A Luthercare Community

Please join us for our

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR
& PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Saturday, November 18
Luther Acres Towne Center
250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz PA



Holiday Bazaar | 8 AM - 2 PM
Handmade Crafts / Jewelry
Hand-carved Wooden Caricatures
Unique Items by Local Artisans
Knitted & Crocheted Items / Baked Goods
Christmas Gifts / Quilt Raffle

Pancake Breakfast | 8-10 AM
Fuel up before you shop!
2 Pancakes, 2 Sausage Links, Juice, Coffee & Tea
\$8.00 (cash only)

All proceeds benefit the Luthercare Caring Fund!
Event sponsored by the Luther Acres Residents' Council.

717.626.1171 | www.Luthercare.org

All Saints Sunday and Homecoming will take place on November 5th. Worship service will be at 10:30 am with luncheon to follow. Please invite all your friends and former members. Sign up for the meal is in the narthex.

The November Council Meeting has been changed to November 14th.

Congregational Meeting - Sunday December 3, 2023 following the worship service at 10:30 am. This meeting is to discuss and approve the 2024 Budget and to elect council members for the year 2024. There is a need for some disciples in this congregation to discern how their gifts may be used as a member of the Congregational Council. Please see Pastor Dietrich if you feel called to this decision making body.

It's that time of year again.
The ushers, Claude, Andy, and Charles will be collecting money on November 26th, December 3rd, December 10th, and December 17th for the staff Christmas Gifts.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - the first Sunday of Advent begins December 3rd. An individual, couple or family is invited to light the Advent candles. Please sign up on poster in narthex for this very special time of the year to share an ancient tradition.

Bus Trip to Seafarers International

Date: November 9, 2023
 Transportation by Elite Coach (26 Passenger)
 Cost \$83.00 per person. (Includes gratuity for Bus Driver.)
 Subway cost \$3.00
 Itinerary:
 Leave Jerusalem Lutheran Church Rothsville at 6:30 am
 Arrive in NYC at 10:00 am
 10:00 am to 11:30 am fill Christmas Satchels at SIH
 11:30 am to 1 pm Lunch (pay your own)
 1 pm to 2:45 pm – Sight see with Pastor Drege
 3 pm Bus will pick up at the World Trade Center
 See sign-up sheet on Bulletin Board in Narthex. Money will be due by Sunday Nov. 5th.
 If paying by check, make out to Brenda Fetter.
 Brenda Fetter address: 324 Pool Rd
 Ephrata, PA 17522



JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

Purpose Statement: As followers of Jesus Christ we serve our neighbors locally and globally.

Present: Pastor Dietrich, Rene Amey, Floss Morgan, Zachary Fetter, Brenda Fetter, Joyce Burkholder, Andy Anderson, Chrystine Anderson, Jill Clubb, Patti Stripling, Scott Barr

Absent: Mike Fetter, Beth Smith

Guest: Larrie Miller

Meeting Led By: Brenda Fetter

Devotions Led By: Pastor Dietrich

Recognitions:

1. Those who helped with God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
2. Those who helped with Rothsville Community Day, especially Brad Clubb and Ken Craley
3. Charles Sweigert for ushering while Andy was unable to usher
4. Mel Ravegum for making coffee
5. Those who helped with August Community Meal
6. Joan Dull and Mel Ravegum for cleaning up water heater leak

Reports:

Pastor: Read and discussed

Secretary: Read and discussed. Motion to accept was made by Rene Amey; seconded by Patti Stripling; motion passed.

Treasurer: Read and discussed. Discussion took place to have a separate collection basket for each congregation at joint services. Motion to accept the report subject to audit was made by Jill Clubb; seconded by Joyce Burkholder; motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Maui Donation: Floss Morgan made a motion for JLC to match the congregation's contribution up to \$1000; seconded by Patti Stripling; motion passed.
2. Altar Flowers: switch to artificial. Discussion tabled.
3. October 22: Seminary Sunday with collection for Youth Ministry and Seminary Fund
4. Cost to replace ceiling fan: \$3150.

New Business:

1. Collection plates: beginning 10/1, collection plates will again be brought to the altar
2. Only two air conditioners are working
3. Trunk or Treat: October 31st
4. November 5th: Homecoming. Scott and Floss to arrange food from Caruso's and a cake.
5. Blessing of Animals- cancelled for this year
6. Election Day November 7th
7. Prices received from Eckert Signs for signs that state the clearance under the portico(had been hit twice): \$700. For sign and installation. Scott Barr to verify height of sign so ambulance will have clearance under the sign. Motion to accept the estimate was made by Rene Amey; seconded by Andy Anderson; motion passed.
8. Council 2024: Zach Fetter will not run for 2nd term; Floss Morgan is willing to run for a second term; Andy and Christine Anderson are finishing their terms and cannot run again. Discussion took place regarding decreasing the council size from 12 to 9 members per the recommendation from Pastor Yeiser- JLC Bylaws allow 9-12 council members. Patti Stripling made a motion to decrease the Council size to 9 members; seconded by Joyce Burkholder; the motion passed.
9. Bus Trip to Seafarer's International House 11/9; \$83. Per person

Committee Reports:

Sunday School: Adult Forums to resume 9/24

Worship and Music: no meeting

Cemetery: no meeting

Finance: see Treasurer's Report

Memorial: no report

Property: see New Business

Service: Ingathering 10/1: 18 Quilts; 20 Personal Care Kits; 30 School Kits

Stewardship: 4 week program; Commitment Sunday 10/29

Reminder Dates: 10/1: Ingathering
10/22: Seminary Sunday
10/28: BULC: Boo Fire and Trunk or Treat in the Grove; 6-8pm
10/29: Commitment Sunday
10/31: Trunk or Treat: 6-8 pm

Announcements/Correspondence: Thank you notes received from the Rothsville Fire Co and Lutheran Camping Corporation for donations.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2023

Adjournment: Motion made by Zach Fetter to adjourn meeting; seconded by Patti Stripling; motion passed

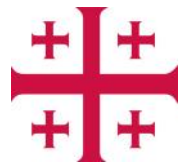
Respectfully submitted,
Jill Clubb
Council Secretary

CHURCH OFFICE REQUEST

Please call the church office at 717-626-8972 or Pastor Dietrich's phone number 717-507-3157 when:

- You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital (or have a relative call for you).
- You are confined to your home for an extended period of time because of illness or accident.
- You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home.
- There is a change in your family status (birth, death, marriage, or divorce).
- You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school. Important for keeping data base current.

Jerusalem Evangelical
Lutheran Church
36 Church Street
Lititz, PA 17543



November, 2023



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

36 Church Street, Rothsville (Lititz), Pennsylvania 17543

717.626.8972 | www.jerusaluth.org | jelc@ptd.net

Pastor's email: viking.dietrich@gmail.com

Office hours: Thursday 10 am to 5 pm and Friday 10 am to 6 pm

Rev. Viking Dietrich, *Interim Pastor*

Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music*

Beth Smith, *Treasurer*

Zachary Fetter, *Office Administrator*

Joan C. Dull, *Sexton*

Congregation, Ministers