

#### **PASTOR PONDERABLES - February 2024**

But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Mark 8:33

"On the second Sunday in Lent, Jesus' message to Peter invites each of us to repent of our preconceived notions of who Jesus is and to accept who he actually is, so that we might live according to Christ's mission rather than the mission we have assigned to Christ. Repentance here means allowing our preferred future to die so that a new life in Christ might live in us.

Peter has a vision for what Jesus should be in this world, but he is going in the wrong direction, moving counter to Jesus. Jesus tells Peter to get behind him and follow. I guess Peter's vision of the future didn't include Jesus dying. But Jesus was sent to reveal to us the power of God to bring us to eternal life, that is life even after death.

24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. John 12:24. Here in John, Jesus goes on to say those who love their life will lose it. That sounds hard to me, but Jesus is inviting us to let go of our notions and emotions so that new life can grow, to live a baptismal or Easter life of death and resurrection. For any congregation looking for renewal, this appeal to let go in order for a new future to bloom is essential.

One of the interesting points in this text from Mark, is that when Jesus rebukes Peter, Jesus is "turned toward and looking at the disciples." What Jesus says to Peter is a message to all disciples in every place and time. Lenten disciplines – prayer, fasting and almsgiving – are meant to help us let go and embrace a future life in Christ with God. I would ask all members to meditate during Lent, in preparation of a new pastor, on what you need to let go of, in order for you to find new life in the congregation.

The Lenten journey of 40 days is not taken alone. We do it as a community. I was impressed in Senegal by how during Lent, everyone would greet each other asking how their Lent was going. Perhaps we can do that, too.

Again this year, we will have special services throughout Lent with our shared ministry partner -Brickerville United Lutheran Church. The Ash Wednesday service a Brickerville will be led by Pastor Glenn Beard and there will be the Imposition of Ashes. Then every Wednesday following, we will we will alternate between the two church buildings for reflections on Lutheran identity and our understanding of the unity of Christ's church. We will have guest speakers from around the world including Franklin Ishida, Chandran Martin, Stephen Deal and Willie and Anne Langdi. During Holy Week, we will observe Maundy Thursday at Jerusalem and Good Friday at Brickerville. See the Schedule below.

I hope all will attend these evening events during Lent. This is an opportunity for people who can't easily come to church on Sunday mornings. And it is an opportunity to strengthen the shared ministry between Brickerville and Rothsville. And of course, it is a spiritual journey, challenging and fulfilling.

#### Pastor Dietrich

#### Lenten Midweek Services Schedule

Echien Midweek Services Serie	<u>caute</u>
Feb 14, Ash Wednesday,	7pm – 7:45, Brickerville
Feb 21, Soup, Study, Pray,	6pm - 7:30, Rothsville
Feb 28, Soup, Study, Pray,	6pm – 7:30, Brickerville
Mar 6, Soup, Study, Pray,	6pm - 7:30, Rothsville
Mar 13, Soup, Study, Pray,	6pm – 7:30, Brickerville
Mar 20, Soup, Study, Pray,	6pm - 7:30, Rothsville
Mar 28, Maundy Thursday,	7pm - 7:45, Rothsville
Mar 29, Good Friday,	7pm – 7:45, Brickerville

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

#### Roger L. Kurtz

During the month of February, the Time after Epiphany draws to a close and the Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (2/14). As we observe the Last Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration of Our Lord on February 11, our Jerusalem Choir will sing a musical setting by Robert G. Farrell (b. 1945) of "Beautiful Savior" – a hymn text found on page 838 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Farrell graduated from Carnegie Mellon University and taught for 30 years at East Allegheny School District, where he spent a majority of his career as the high school choral director. He has composed church music for over 50 years and is currently composer-in-residence at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Pittsburgh. Organ voluntaries that day will include the tone poem "Vision" by Joseph Rheinberger (1839-1901) and a chorale improvisation by Paul Manz (1919-2009) on "Deo Gracias," the tune to which the Hymn of the Day ("Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair" – *ELW* #316) is sung. The final hymn that Sunday ("Alleluia, Song of Gladness" – *ELW* #318) will provide an opportunity to sing our last "Alleluias" before Lent begins three days later on Ash Wednesday. This particular hymn text is a translation of an 11th-century Latin hymn used during ceremonial rites to bury the "Alleluia." The liturgy of the medieval church forbade the use of the word "Alleluia" (the Hebrew expression for the phrase "Praise the Lord") during Lent, a tradition continued to this day in liturgical churches.

Throughout our 40-day Lenten journey, the musical part of our Sunday liturgies will take on a more somber tone to aid us in our spiritual self-examination and contemplation. In addition to the word "Alleluia" being absent from all hymns and chants, the "Gloria in Excelsis" is omitted and in its place the "Kyrie" is sung. As in years past, the more solemn plainsong setting of the service music (Setting Five) will once again be used. Anthems offered by our choir on the first two Sundays in Lent will include "Forty Days and Forty Nights" by Harrison Oxley (1933-2009) and "Lenten Prayer," an arrangement by Patrick M. Liebergen (b. 1949) of music originally written by the Italian composer Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736).

Mark your calendars now for the program of choral music The Lancaster Chamber Singers will present in our nave on Sunday, March 10, at 3:00 p.m. The event is offered as part of our 2023-2024 Music at Jerusalem Concert Series. Directed by Jay W. Risser, the group has played a major role in quality performances of choral masterpieces in central Pennsylvania since the ensemble's founding in 1978. Consisting of 35 to 40 auditioned vocalists, the group performs primarily in Lancaster County and its immediate surroundings, and has also appeared at venues such as the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., Longwood Gardens, and Bruton Parish Church in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, where they presented a concert to help celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Details regarding the works they will be singing on March 10<sup>th</sup> will appear in next month's newsletter. Additional information about the ensemble, including video recordings, can be found on their website: lancasterchambersingers.org.

#### February Worship Leaders

	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister/Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Zoom Monitor
Feb. 4	Brenda Fetter	Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
Feb. 11	Emma Miller	Brenda Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
Feb. 18	Jean Slaymaker	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
Feb. 25		J.D. Wissler	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		

#### **HOME COMMUNION MEMBERS**

Barry Becker	Lillian Logeman	Norma Rhoads	<b>Doris Witwer</b>
Maple Farms Nursing Center (Rm 41) 604 Oak Street Akron, PA 17501 Birthday: August 14	Ephrata Manor 99 Bethany Rd. Room #121. Ephrata, PA 17522 223-264-8805 Birthday: August 31	2646 Camp Road Manheim, PA 17545 717-626-8117 Birthday: September 24	Viva Senior Living 150 Kempton Ave., Room 252 Harrisburg, PA 17111 717-901-6026 Birthday: February 20

**Lititz-Warwick Community Chest Food Bank February Food Bank Suggestions:** 

- canned fruit
- Juice for children (no prune or tomato, please)
- Oatmeal

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

### **Property Committee Update**

- 1. 3rd Air Conditioning estimate pending
- 2. Emergency lighting repairs scheduled

Jerusalem members,

Thank you for the Christmas gift. I really appreciate it. I hope everyone has a healthy and safe 2024.

Joan

The only thing nicer than your gift was the thoughtfulness behind it.

Thank you for the generous Christman Bonus!

Beth

# February, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Happy Valentine's Day		HAPPY PRESIDENT'S DAY	GROUNDHOG DAY	1 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	2 Ground- hog Day	3 Men's Bible Study at Zi- on Lutheran Manheim 9:00 am
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion Annual Congregational Meeting after worship	5	6	7	8 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	9	10
Transfiguration of Our Lord Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	12	13	Finance Meeting Valentines Day Ash Wednesday Service 7pm at BULC	15 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm March News- letter Dead- line	16	17
18 First Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	19 President's Day	20 7 pm Council Meeting	21 Lenten Service at JELC Meal 6pm Service 7pm	22 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	23	24
25 Second Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion	26	27	28 Lenten Service at BULC Meal 6pm Service 7pm	29 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm		

#### PRAYER CONCERNS



Let us pray for: Christine and Andy Anderson, Barry Becker, Brian & Joyce Burkholder and family, Spencer Ehrhart, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Sharon Levering, Lillian Logeman, Joy McCurty, Judy Perry, Norma Rhoads, Lisa Riley, Sarah Schreiber, Parker Studenroth, Greg Summers, Toby Sweigart, Neal Vital, 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 Israel & Palestine.

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

#### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

6– Lindsay Volker 20–Doris Witwer

10- Kelly Smith 21- Aaron Stripling

13– Amanda Nafe 26– Joyce Burkholder

16 - Ross Clubb 26 - Kala Stripling Wolfe

19– Chad Morgan 27– Linda Nafe



#### FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

Elaine Mensch 2/7/

Grant Clubb 2/15/98



Correction to 2023 Annual Report:

Patti Stripling correct email: pattistripling@ymail.com

Please make changes to your Annual Report.

#### **Adult Forum Schedule**

Everyone is welcome to join at 9 am.

Feb. 4 - Gospel of Mark 1:14-20

Feb. 11 - Gospel of Mark 1:21-28

Feb. 18 - God's Righteousness Revealed

Feb. 25 - Gift of Grace

Feb. 18 and continuing we will be using the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies.

#### February 2024 Readings



Feb 4.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Year B

First Reading Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 11

Transfiguration of

Our Lord

Year B

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm

Psalm 50:1-6

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Feb. 18

First Sunday in Lent

Year B

First Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

Feb. 25

Second Sunday in Lent Year B

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalm

Psalm 22:23-31

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

#### JELC EVENTS

#### MIDWEEK LENTEN DEVOTIONS

JELC will be partnering with BULC for midweek Lenten services. The location will alternate, with the first service here at JELC on Wednesday February 21st. A light meal of soup will be served at 6:00 with study to follow and Vespers at 7:00.

Help is needed to help prepare and serve the meal on the following dates:

February 21st, March 6th and March 20th. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex or see Jill Clubb if you are willing to help!

JELC Upcoming Events - Please mark your calendars!

Wednesday April 24 at 6:30pm at JELC– Potluck Dinner - Following the meal, all committees from JELC and BULC will meet to discuss each committee's functions.

JELC is inviting BULC to Annual Picnic on June 2 at 10:00 am. The joint worship service will include the Polka Mass with the Heidelberg Brass Band. Picnic lunch and more information to follow. Any questions ask or call Brenda Fetter at 717-283-9947.

#### **BULC EVENTS**

Brickerville United Lutheran is inviting the women of Jerusalem to participate in a monthly study of women of the Bible using the book,

"Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. Purchase of the book is optional. Becoming familiar with each months women will be helpful for your participation in discussion. The study will be held in the fellowship hall at Brickerville United Lutheran Church located at 340 Hershey Rd. Lititz at 10 AM on 3rd Monday of the month except July and August, no study. We hope to see you! Don't travel if weather/roads are nasty.

Have questions? Call Jackie 717 821-2616

Feb 19	Esther & Rahab
March 18	Rachel & Leah
April 15	Mary Jesus' mother & Mary Magdalene
May 20	Hannah & Miriam
June 17	Sarah & Hagar
Sept 16	Tamar & Ruth
Oct 21	Mary & Martha
Nov 18	Jesus & The Women

Save the date: Jerusalem congregation is invited to "Spud Night" Friday March 15, 2024 @ 5:30pm

#### Report from Council President:

- 1. Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday Feb. 4 following the worship service. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Lunch will be provided after the meeting. See sign up sheet in narthex for needs for the luncheon.
- 2. Council has approved the following members for our call committee: Rene Amey, Jeanine Schreiber, J.D. Wissler. Thank you all for your willingness to serve.
- 3. Our Congregational auditors who are Ken Craley, Floss Morgan, and Jean Slaymaker have audited all our 2023 Financial Reports. Thank you to all for your diligent work.
- 4. For Sundays in Lent, we will be placing greens in our altar vases. If you wish to place flowers in the church for a special occasion please place information on flower chart.
- 5. 2024 Flower Chart is located in narthex. Please sign up as you wish.
- 6. For Wednesdays in Lent JELC and BULC will be alternating sites for evening soup and worship. At BULC: Ash Wednesday 2/14 no soup 7pm. 2/28, 3/13, Soup 6pm, Worship 7pm. At JELC: 2/21, 3/6, 3/20 Soup at 6pm, Worship at 7pm
  - 7. Look for signup sheet on Bulletin Board in narthex to help.
- 8. Snow/Inclement Weather information:

If inclement weather occurs the pastor and council presidents will make decisions if worship needs to be cancelled. If service is cancelled, members will be notified via email and or phone call. Please call or text Brenda at 717-283-9947 prior to venturing out if you are unsure.

- 9. Keep checking the Bulletin and or Newsletter for upcoming events.
- 10. Council decided to continue our Zoom Monitoring for worship. We do need volunteers to monitor the Zoom Service. See sign up sheet in Narthex.

Blessings,

Brenda Fetter

#### PASTOR OFF/VACATION

Pastor will be on vacation Feb. 8 to Feb.15. If you have an emergency during this time, please contact the church office, Zach Fetter's Cell Phone: 717-572-5799, or Brenda Fetter's Cell Phone: 717-283-9947. Zach or Brenda will contact the on call pastor.

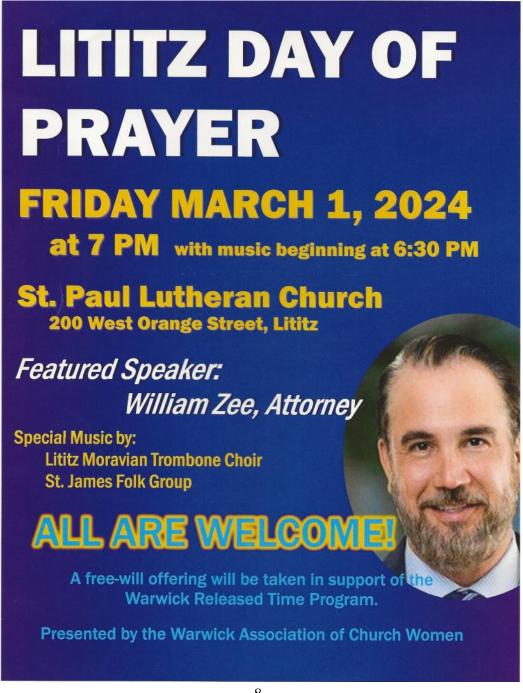
#### National Quilting Day 2024

"Those who sleep under a quilt, sleep under a blanket of love."

March 16, 2024, is National Quilting Day, and we at Lutheran World Relief have a LOT to celebrate! For more than 75 years, compassionate people just like you have put their faith into action and made quilts for people in need around the world. And not just a few quilts - nearly 28 Million Quilts! These gifts of love make life brighter, softer, and a bit more comfortable for our neighbors around the world struggling with chronic poverty, illness, natural disaster and conflict. Thank you.

Host your own National Quilting Day event to celebrate more than 75 years of comforting the world with quilts!





#### Jerusalem Mutual Ministry Committee Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2023

Present: Pastor Dietrich, Joyce Burkholder, Dave Carson, & Brad Clubb

- 1. Jerusalem does not have formal guidelines stating the purpose and responsibilities of the Mutual Ministry Committee.
- 2. We do have a Constitution and Continuing Resolutions for Jerusalem.
- 3. Jerusalem does not have formal By-laws.
- 4. The last formal update of Jerusalem's Constitution was completed in 2017. The synod provides the congregations with updates. We need to ensure that any updates since 2017 have been added to our Constitution. It was agreed that the Mutual Ministry Committee will update the Constitution prior to the next Pastor's call begins.
- 5. Pastor Dietrich discussed the Committee's roles in hiring church staff members and conducting staff reviews including compensation. It was noted that the role of the committee in these areas has varied depending on the pastor at a given time. Pastor provided a template for Annual Review and Assessment for Staff Positions that he received when involved with Global Missions. The committee plans to use the template to conduct staff reviews in the spring.
- The committee reviewed Position Descriptions for Jerusalem's Office Administrator and Church Treasurer. These documents may need some updates.
- 7. The Mutual Ministry Committee may have a few more tasks to complete after the next Pastor is called.

Brad Clubb 12-18-23

Jerusalem Lutheran Church

October 29, 2023

Meeting to discuss the future of the existing candelabras.

Memorial committee members were invited to attend.

Present: Chrystine Anderson, Andy Anderson, Pastor Dietrich, Brenda Fetter, Zach Fetter, Roger Kurtz, Claude Grube

Problem: Candles in candelabras do not stay lit and or do not light at all.

CM Almy was contacted and obtained prices for new candelabras and oil filled candles. Prices for 2 new candelabras ranged from \$2988 to \$3114. 14 oil filled candles cost \$1000.

Sudbury Candelabra \$719- only uses wax candles.

Repair current candelabras?

Discussion took place. Can money be used from Memorial Fund?

It was decided, for now, to repair current candelabras and Mike Fetter volunteered to do this.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Fetter, council president

#### JERUSALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES December 19, 2023

"As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors globally and locally"

Present: Pastor Dietrich, Brenda Fetter, Mike Fetter, Patti Stripling, Joyce Burkholder, Jill Clubb, Scott Barr,

Zach Fetter, Floss Morgan, Rene Amey, Beth Smith, Andy Anderson, Chrystine Anderson

Guests: Larrie Miller, Jean Slaymaker Devotions: Led by Pastor Dietrich Meeting: Led by Brenda Fetter

**Recognitions:** 

- 1. Thanks to Zach Fetter, Chrystine Anderson and Andy Anderson for serving on Council
- 2. Thanks to those who helped decorate the church and went caroling
- 3. Thanks to the Finance Committee for the 2024 Budget
- 4. Thanks to Zach Fetter for help with the Christmas banner
- 5. Thanks to Mike Fetter for repairing the candelabras
- 6. Thanks to Deb Carson and Emma Miller for knitting hats and scarves for Seafarers International

#### **Reports:**

**Pastor's Report:** distributed and discussed. Highlights: the push to establish and sign the Articles of Agreement with BULC is over; next issue is to update the Constitution with changes from Synod; staff reviews will be done in May; vacations are 12/26/23-1/15/24 and 2/8/24-2/15/24; Music and Worship will work on the schedule for Lenten services; discussed the possibility of an evening dinner church in the Spring.

**Secretary's Report:** distributed and discussed. Motion to accept the report was made by Rene Amey; seconded by Patti Stripling motion was accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** distributed and discussed. A motion was made to accept the report was made by Rene Amey; seconded by Joyce Burkholder; the motion was accepted. Larrie Miller stated that there is over \$3000. In our Benevolence account- do we want to make a contribution? Rene Amey made a motion to allow the Service Committee to designate \$1000. to an area of need; Joyce Burkholder seconded the motion; the motion was accepted.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Articles of Agreement: an updated copy was distributed and discussed. The Steering Committee will meet every 3 months; the joint Call Committee will use a truncated form of the profile; each congregation will have their own Mutual Ministry. Administrative fees paid to BULC were discussed, they seemed high. A motion to accept the Articles of Agreement with a review of the administrative fees was made by Jill Clubb; seconded by Floss Morgan; the motion was accepted.

#### **New Business:**

- 1. Council Elections: Kathy Schreiber is not able to commit to council. Brenda Fetter recommended that Council is decreased to 8 members. Rene Amey made a motion to decrease the number of Council members to 8; Floss Morgan seconded the motion; the motion was accepted.
- Council Officer Elections: The following nominations were made: President- Brenda Fetter; Vice President- Patti Stripling; Secretary- Jill Clubb. Rene Amey made a motion to accept the nominations; Zach Fetter seconded the motion; the motion was accepted. Installation of Council- January 14, 2024.
- 3. Call Committee: Jeanine Schreiber and Rene Amey will serve; still seeking one member.
- 4. Auditors: Chrystine Anderson, Andy Anderson, Jean Slaymaker and Floss Morgan were nominated. Joyce Burkholder made a motion to accept the nominations; seconded by Zach Fetter; the motion was accepted.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Sunday School:** no report. Patti Stripling to be Council Liaison.

Worship and Music: planned Epiphany services; next meeting 1/7/24. Brenda Fetter-Council

**Cemetery:** see minutes from meeting. Floss Morgan – Council Liaison.

Memorial: no report. Patti Stripling- Council Liaison.

Finance: see Treasurer's Report.

**Property:** quote for new AC units was received from Ressler and Master: replacement of all 4

Sanctuary units is \$36,000. Mike Fetter- Council Liaison. Service: no report. Joyce Burkholder- Council Liaison.

Stewardship: no report.

Mutual Ministry: meeting minutes were distributed and discussed.

**Reminder Dates:** December 21<sup>st</sup>- Midweek Advent service December 24<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Eve Service

Next Meeting: January 16, 2024

#### **Announcements/Correspondence:**

Thank You from LWR for Hawaii fire contribution.

Christmas cards from Seafarers International and Elite Coach.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Zach Fetter; seconded by Rene Amey; the motion was accepted.

Respectfully Submitted, Jill Clubb Council Secretary

#### Dear Congregation,

Thank you very much for the many Christmas cards and kind words, and generous gift during as we celebrated our Christ's birth. Your thoughtfulness has been very encouraging. We are four months into our work together, and I look forward to completing our goal in the new year of calling a shared pastor for the two congregations. Please feel free to call me for any reason, even just to talk!

My number is 717-507-3157.

Pastor Dietrich

#### **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.

+ + + Serusalem Evangelical
Lutheran Church
36 Church Street
Lititz, PA 17543

## February, 2024

## Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

36 Church Street, Lititz (Rothsville), 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