

# JERUSALEM JOURNAL

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

October, 2022

## READINGS

Oct 2

**17th Sunday after Pentecost,  
Year C**

First Reading

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

Psalm

Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1: 1-14

Gospel

Luke 17:5-10

Oct 9

**18th Sunday after  
Pentecost, Year C**

First Reading

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm

Psalm 111

Second Reading

2 Timothy 2: 8-15

Gospel

Luke 17: 11-19

Oct 16

**19th Sunday after  
Pentecost, Year C**

First Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm

Psalm 121

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Gospel

Luke 18: 1-8

Oct 23

**20th Sunday after  
Pentecost, Year C**

First Reading

Jeremiah 14: 7-10,  
19-22

Psalm

Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-  
18

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

Oct 30

**21th Sunday after  
Pentecost,  
Year C**

First Reading

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm

Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 1:1-

## PASTOR'S PONDERABLES - October 2022

**Dear Disciples of Jerusalem:**

### *PATIENT TRUST*

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay. We should like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new. And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability - and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually - let them grow, let them shape themselves, without undue haste. Do not try to force them on as though you could be today what time (that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be.

Give our Lord the benefit of believing that his (*sic*) hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

- *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J.*

This reflection by Father de Chardin, a Jesuit priest, was shared with the Envisioning Committee recently. This ad hoc group of people from our congregation have been meeting for a few months now in light of my retirement at the end of the year and the need to be realistic about what Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church will look like moving forward in the near future, and beyond. To that end we would like to share with you the content of those meetings and the discernment that is happening for the benefit of all in this congregation.

There have been four different avenues of consideration that have also been shared with the Congregational Council, and is now being shared with you. No decisions have been made about what direction(s) the church will follow, only knowing that continuing as we are is not sustainable.

1. Meeting with Pastor Rob Myallis, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lititz. They are willing to provide training for people from Jerusalem to become home communion extenders. They will also provide a pastor one time a month to be in person at Jerusalem to lead worship and administer Holy Communion. The other three Sundays, lay leaders from Jerusalem would lead worship with the availability of a live streamed sermon from St Paul's.

2. Brickerville United Lutheran Church is in the process of calling a pastor to their congregation, but are only able to offer a half-time call. They are asking us if we would be willing to employ the called pastor for half-time to create a full-time work situation.

3. Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, Lititz, is searching the Warwick School District area for a church home to either lease with the option to buy, or to buy, with the provision that if a congregation is still worshipping there, they will be able to continue to do so.

4. Jerusalem Envisioning Committee has also met with Pastor Richard Jorgensen, who is an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, seeking definitive information re. the synod's commitment to endorse a called minister to this congregation. Again, please know that you are more than welcome to attend the Envisioning Committee meetings, and be a part of the planning process. The congregation will be invited to an information, questions, and answer meeting before a meeting will be scheduled, and we will vote on Congregational Council's recommendation. Then, the entire congregation will vote on that decision. May the message below help us focus on whose will we are fulfilling in love.

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Revelation 21: 1-6

Grace and peace, Pastor Bonnie M. Oplinger

**HOLY COMMUNION or HOLY EUCHARIST** is one of the two Sacraments celebrated in the Lutheran Church. It is the centerpiece of worship each Sunday in which we receive the spiritual food our Lord Jesus Christ offers to us. Many churches embrace the commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers or Communion Extenders to give lay people in the church the opportunity to visit the sick and homebound in their congregation and share Holy Communion with them. To that end, there will be opportunities at the Adult Forum during the month of October to learn how to do this. Please give some prayer and thought to being a part of this important lay ministry at Jerusalem moving forward.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS** will take place on Sunday, October 2, 2022 at 1 PM at the portico entrance to the church. All animals and pets are welcome to receive this blessing which commemorates the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, who was especially attuned to the relationship between animals and human beings. We will also remember those in our church whose beloved pet(s) have passed on from life to life this year.



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

**Roger L. Kurtz**

Mark your calendars now for the two events planned for our 2022-2023 Music at Jerusalem Concert Series: Amy Yovanovich, mezzo soprano, will present a solo vocal recital on Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 3:00 p.m., and QuintEssentially Brass will present a concert on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. The musicians are no strangers to Jerusalem Church, with Amy having appeared here on December 3, 2017 as part of a Christmas concert presented by the Lancaster Chamber Singers, and QuintEssentially Brass performing a memorable program as part of our series on March 19, 2017.

Originally scheduled for March 29, 2020 and cancelled due to the pandemic, the recital featuring Amy Yovanovich will include a varied program comprised of classical sacred music, arrangements of spirituals and folk songs, and solos from musical theatre. Amy currently serves as Executive Director for State Street Academy of Music in Harrisburg. She studied voice/opera extensively at the former Pennsylvania Academy of Music in Lancaster. Her vocal teachers include John Darrenkamp, a local veteran of the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York City, and Kyle C. Engler of Baltimore, MD. Acclaimed for her velvety tone quality, power and range, Amy has performed with the Pennsylvania Academy of Music Opera/Theatre Workshop, Lancaster and Harrisburg Opera Companies, Reading Pops Orchestra, and Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. She is currently on the faculty of the Lancaster Conservatory of Music and is Director of Music for the Westgate Baptist Church in Lancaster.

Formed in 2009, QuintEssentially Brass consists of Doug Albert, trumpet; Gene Clark, trumpet; Kristen Albert, french horn; Andy Walls, trombone; and Geoff Davis, tuba. The quintet has performed extensively throughout the Susquehanna Valley, including programs at the Ware Center in Lancaster and the Mt. Gretna Tabernacle. Their varied repertoire of both sacred and secular music includes everything from Baroque to jazz.

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. We will not be seeking donations for the upcoming season since the pandemic forced us to cancel and reschedule one of the two events planned for 2019/2020. Many thanks to those whose previous gifts will be acknowledged in the forthcoming fall and spring programs: Lois Aupperlee (in memoriam), Ken and Janet Craley, Claude Grube, Rebecca Grube, Roger and Cheri Kurtz, Jim and Lucille Martin (in memoriam), Lois Mearig, The Reverend Bonnie M. Oplinger, Dolores Stehman (in memoriam), Evelyn Wissler (in memoriam), and John David Wissler.

## October Worship Leaders

	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Assisting Minister/Lector</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Zoom Monitor</b>
<b>Oct 2</b>	Emma Miller	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube	Spencer Ehrhart	
<b>Oct 9</b>	Brenda Fetter		Andy Anderson, Claude Grube	Joyce Burkholder	Mike Fetter
<b>Oct 16</b>	Jean Slaymaker	Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube	Mike Fetter	Mike Fetter
<b>Oct 23</b>	Kathy Schreiber	Brenda Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		Kathy Schreiber
<b>Oct 30</b>			Andy Anderson, Claude Grube	Mike Fetter	Mike Fetter

**TRUNK OR TREAT NIGHT** will be held Monday, October 31st from 6pm to 8pm in our church parking lot. Cars, Truck beds, and Hatch backs of cars can be decorated for Halloween. If you care to you can bring some candy or other treats to share with our neighboring children. All are welcome to come out and meet and greet our neighbors and friends. See sign up sheet on Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Call Brenda at **717-243-9947** for any questions.

Thank you,

Brenda Fetter

### **Lititz-Warwick Community Chest Food Bank**

#### **October Suggestions:**

- \*Ready to eat, chunky-type canned soups**
- \*Juice for children**
- \*canned meats (chicken, spam, tuna, etc.)**

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



# INGATHERING NEWS:

***Ingathering is ON! Sunday, October 2nd***

***\*41 School Kits\* 35 Health Care Kits \*31 Handmade Quilts***

***These are the gifts of the generous members of***

***Jerusalem Lutheran Church to be sent to the communities most in need throughout the world via Lutheran World Relief.***

***We will celebrate this day, along with Lutherans across the US, with a Litany of Thanksgiving and Dedication for these gifts. Also, as usual, our beautiful, handmade quilts will be on display during the service.***

***Thank you to the***

***generous members of this congregation for your continued***

***Support of this important ministry.***

## Thank you!

Dear Pastor and Congregation,

Jeanine my family and I would like to thank you for your prayers and cards for our mother. Some of your visits with her and that was a true blessing, lifting her and our spirits. Pastor we can not thank you enough not only for you leading her service and all of your ministry, but for your friendship. You were a dear friend to her. We are so thankful for that, and for The Congregation.

Thank you,

John David Wissler

## All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet



**Saturday, October 29, 2022  
7:00-10:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST INCLUDES:** EGGS, HOME FRIES, CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF, PANCAKES, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, COFFEE, TEA, JUICES, VARIOUS PASTRIES AND FRUIT.

**ADMISSION BY DONATION**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE  
TO: NORTH LANCASTER  
CONFERENCE DEAN'S FUND**

*PROCEEDS BENEFIT NORTH LANCASTER CONFERENCE  
DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY IN 2023*

**SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL  
275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD,  
REINHOLDS**

**PHONE 717-336-2849**



**GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS.**

# October, 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9 am Holy Communion Ingathering 1pm Blessing of Animals	3	4 Feast of St Francis	5 Yom Kippur 7pm Choir Practice	6	7	8
9 9 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Adult Forum	10 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	11	12 10 am Finance Committee Meeting 7pm Choir Practice	13	14	15
16 9 am Holy Communion 10:30 Adult Forum	17	18 6 pm Future Church Meeting 7 pm Council Meeting	19 7pm Choir Practice	20	21	22
23 9 am Holy Communion 10:30 Adult Forum	24	25	26 7pm Choir Practice	27	28	29
30 9 am Holy Communion 10:30 Adult Forum Reformation	31 Happy Halloween Trunk or Treat 6pm					

## HOME COMMUNION MEMBERS A call, dropping a card or a visit....

### Lillian Logeman

Ephrata Manor  
Room #121.  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
(Cell) 223-264-8805  
*Birthday: August 31*

### Doris Witwer

709 Cricket Glen Road  
Hummelstown, PA 17036  
(717)220-1106  
*Birthday: February 20*

### Norma Rhoads

2646 Camp Road  
Manheim, PA 17545  
717-627-8815  
*Birthday: August 14*

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for Christine and Andy Anderson, Lynn Beard, Christopher Craley, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Lillian Logeman, Byron Miller, Judy Perry, Lisa Riley, Vickie Salmi, Daryl Slaymaker, Doris Witwer, Wyatt Wolfe, Bonnie Trout, and Pastor Dennis Trout. Pray for God's healing presence in places of hunger, pain, illness, or overwhelming sorrow. Be with military personnel, first responders, healthcare workers and the helpers and the residents at nursing homes; school boards, school administrators, staff, teachers, and students in communities around this country.

## October BIRTHDAYS

8-Florence Morgan	18- Chris Scheid
12-Henry Bowman	19- Daniel Volker
12- Eric Weinhold	21- Jim Holland
17- Janet Craley	22- Gregory Sammet

### October Anniversaries of Baptism

10- Doris Witwer- 1930  
31- Betsy Smith- 1993

### October Wedding Anniversaries

8- Roger & Cheri Kurtz-1988

# Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 16, 2022

*“As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors locally and globally.”*

**Present:** Pastor Oplinger, Rene Amey, Odel Anderson, Joyce Burkholder, Jill Clubb, Brenda Fetter, Mike Fetter, Zachary Fetter, Larrie Miller, Florence Morgan, Leslie Orner, Mel Ravegum, Jean Slaymaker, and Patti Stripling

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** None

**Devotions were led by:** Pastor Oplinger

**Meeting led by:** Jean Slaymaker, Council President

**Recognitions:**

Those who helped with the August 15<sup>th</sup> Community Meal: Joyce Burkholder, Jill Clubb, Brenda Fetter, Pastor Oplinger, and Jean Slaymaker.

Kathy Schreiber for transporting donated food items to the Lititz/Warwick Community Chest

Those who led the Adult Forum for the month of July: Joyce Burkholder, Janet Craley, Brenda Fetter, Zachary Fetter, Florence Morgan, Lisa Riley, and Kathy Schreiber

Florence Morgan for opening the church building for Pastor's Support Group during the month of July.

**Reports:**

**Pastor's Report: A written Pastor's Report was distributed to council members and was approved as written with the following discussion:**

Resignation of Leslie Orner as Office Administrator and Treasurer.

Pastor Oplinger has placed an ad in the Shopping News for both positions.

Pastor Oplinger reported that she asked Tom Smith if interested in Treasurer position and his reply was "No." However, Beth Smith is interested in Treasurer position and agreeable to the working hours and wages. Discussion took place. Patti Stripling made a motion to hire Beth Smith as the church treasurer and Mel Ravegum seconded and the motion was approved.

Retirement of Pastor Bonnie Oplinger (see attached letter) and the following items:

LSS Council - accepts letter - September 24<sup>th</sup> – this begins the process of paperwork for Pastor Oplinger's retirement.

Congregation may be notified before LSS council meets- September newsletter  
Congregational Council needs to consider if they can support an interim pastor @ \$50,000 a year.  
Would this position or another called pastor's position be 3/4 time, or 1/2 time?  
Envisioning Committee will continue to explore cooperative relationships with other congregations or entities.  
Consideration of an intern for one year before interim or next called pastor. There may not be an intern available at this time.

**Secretary's Report:** A written secretary's report from June 21, 2022 was distributed to council members. Florence Morgan made a motion to accept this amended report with the corrections of 55 bag meals obtained for June 20<sup>th</sup> community meal and 42 were distributed, and the correct spelling of Kraybill in the law firm of Gibbel, Kraybill, and Hess. Rene Amey seconded and the motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The July 7, 2022 and the August 8, 2022 Treasurer's report distributed to council members. Brenda Fetter made a motion to accept the two Treasurer's reports subject to audit, and Joyce Burkholder seconded. The motion was approved.

Should PP&L Bills be put on budget schedule? Discussion took place. Florence Morgan made a motion to put PP&L Electric Bills on a budget schedule. Joyce Burkholder seconded and the motion was approved.

\$1000 gift was received from Matthew 25 for emergency needs. Discussion took place. Florence Morgan made a motion to give \$500 to the Deans Disaster fund of the synod and \$500 to the United Lutheran Seminary. Zachary Fetter seconded and the motion was approved.

Larrie Miller reported the Auditors have done some work on finances for first half of the year.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Rothsville Day- Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Ken Craley is looking for helpers.

We will do Trunk or Treat this year. We will need to check with Warwick Township as to what date is scheduled for that event.

Church was informed that the Jim Martin estate to donate 5% of the estate to the church Memorial Fund.

**Committee Reports:**

**Sunday School:**

Adult Forum recently studied chapters in Genesis.

**Worship and Music:**

**Cemetery:** No report

**Memorial:** No report

**Finance:** See Treasurer's Reports

**Property:** No report

**Service:** At August 15<sup>th</sup> Community meal 45 meals and 7 bags of groceries were given out. God's Work Our Hands Sunday will take place 9/11/22. It was suggested that a small flyer of Jerusalem Information would be handed out with the Community meal take outs.

**Stewardship:** No report

**Reminder Dates:**

9/4/22 Blessing of Work Related Items and Back Packs

9/11/22 God's Work Our Hands Sunday

9/17/22 Rothsville Day

**Next Meeting: 9/20/22**

**Announcements/Correspondences:**

Received letter of resignation effective August 26, 2022 from Office Administrator and Treasurer, Leslie Orner.

**Adjournment:** Mel Ravegum made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Rene Amey seconded. The meeting was adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Brenda Fetter, Council Secretary**



## Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm

Where Faith is Renewed, the Church is Strengthened

PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303 717-677-8211 (phone) 717-677-7597 (fax) [www.lutherancamping.org](http://www.lutherancamping.org)

September 2, 2022

Jerusalem Lutheran Church  
36 Church St  
Lititz, PA 17543-3036

Dear Siblings in Christ at Jerusalem Lutheran Church:

“Jesus said, ‘Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom belongs to such as these.’” (Matthew 19:14) One of our strongest traditions at the Lutheran Camping Corporation has been that we provide camperships for those children who could not come otherwise.

Thank you for your recent gift of \$550.00 given on August 29, 2022, and designated for Campership fund (no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution). You have helped to make it possible for us to follow Jesus’ example of blessing all of the children that were brought to him.

I will never forget how one camper expressed his wonderment about the community he found at camp – he told me that “at camp, everyone wanted to be my friend. It’s not like that at school!” That affirmation enabled him to look at the world with new enthusiasm.

We will never know exactly how many lives have been blessed through our outdoor ministries over the past 90+ years. But we know that the love of Christ will continue to be shared and lives will be changed as we continue toward our one hundredth anniversary in 2028. Your special gift continues the tradition that we don’t turn away any child. Be sure to stop by sometime soon at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and/or the Wittel Farm so that you may enjoy these very special places.

May the peace that transcends time and place be with you.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Youse  
Executive Director

*Thank you for your generous  
partnership in ministry.*

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church  
36 Church Street  
Lititz, PA 17543



October, 2022

## Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

36 Church Street, Rothsville (Lititz), Pennsylvania 17543

717.626.8972 | [www.jerusaluth.org](http://www.jerusaluth.org) | [jelc@ptd.net](mailto:jelc@ptd.net)

Pastor's email: [jlcpastr@ptd.net](mailto:jlcpastr@ptd.net)

**Office hours: Monday and Thursday 3:30 pm to 8:30pm, and Saturday 12pm to 5pm**

**The Reverend Bonnie M. Oplinger, *Pastor***

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

**Beth Smith, *Treasurer***

**Zachary Fetter, *Office Administrator***

**Joan C. Dull, *Sexton***

**Congregation, *Ministers***