January, 2023
Readings

Jan.1
First Sunday of Christmas
Year A
First Reading
Isaiah 63: 7-9
Psalm
Psalm 148
Second Reading
Hebrews 2: 10-18
Gospel
Matthew 2: 13-23

Jan. 8
First Sunday after Epiphany
Year A
First Reading
Isaiah 42: 1-9
Psalm
Psalm 29
Second Reading
Acts 10: 34-43
Gospel
Matthew 3: 13-17

Jan. 15
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Year A
First Reading
Isaiah 49: 1-7
Psalm
Psalm 40: 1-11
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 1: 1-9
Gospel
John 1: 29-42

Jan. 22
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Year A
First Reading
Isaiah 9: 1-4
Psalm
Psalm 27: 1, 4-9
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 1: 10-18
Gospel
Matthew 1:4: 12-23

Jan. 29
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Year A
First Reading
Micah 6: 1-8
Psalm
Psalm 15
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31
Gospel
Matthew 5: 1-12

JERUSALEM JOURNAL

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

PASTOR'S PONDERABLES– JANUARY 2023

December 18, 2022

Dear Disciples of Jerusalem Ev. Lutheran Church:

How do I begin to thank all of you for your awesome celebration of my retirement and 80th birthday. You never fail to show your generosity and caring for anyone in the community of faith, including your pastor. From beginning to end, the celebration yesterday was a memorable event. Everyone commented on the meaningful worship service. They were also astounded at how delicious the meal was that was served for lunch. The floral decorations in the social hall were so beautiful. Your meaningful gift to me of the registration for next summer's icon camp is most appreciated. Please know your additional monetary gift will find an appropriate use in the future. You have enriched my life in so many ways over the past almost 6 years. I am truly sorry that there could not have been more of them. You have such competent leadership and disciple participation in this congregation that you will continue to be the Body of Christ in the church on the side of the hill in Rothsville. Trust God to guide you. You are always in God's hands no matter what happens in the future. Remember to "Live Wet" in Rothsville, PA.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bonnie Mary Oplinger

Beginning Sunday January 15, we welcome the Rev. Dr. Daniel M. Yeiser as our shared interim pastor. Pastor Yeiser is a retired pastor who has most recently served as an intentional interim pastor since 2018. Pastor Yeiser and his wife Christy live in the York area. Pastor Yeiser will serve Brickerville United Lutheran and Jerusalem on a short-term basis until approximately the beginning of Lent. He will be in the office 2 days each week for each church and working from home 1 day a week. Both churches have new worship times with Brickerville's being 8:45 am and Jerusalem will worship at 10:30 am. Our January 8th worship will be presided over by Deaconess Marsha Roscoe. She will be officiating at both churches that day so our service on the 8th will begin at 10:30 am. Please welcome both individuals as Jerusalem begins a new chapter in the life of our congregation.

--

Dave Carson and The Envisioning Committee

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roger L. Kurtz

Approximately 75 people attended Amy Yovanovich's vocal recital here at Jerusalem Church on November 20, 2022. Those who did were treated to a memorable afternoon of wonderful music making on the part of both Amy and her accompanist, Daniel Stokes. Many thanks to Ken & Janet Craley, Brenda Fetter, Zachary Fetter, Cheri Kurtz, and John David Wissler for helping with usher responsibilities, and to Pastor Oplinger for her opening words of welcome. Again, we are most grateful to those members and friends of Jerusalem Church who are patrons for this season's two events. (Please see the October *Jerusalem Journal* for a listing of names.) "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." In response to these words of Martin Luther, our church continues to offer its Music at Jerusalem Concert Series as a means to share this gift of God with the community, as well as support the artistic and cultural life so essential for nurturing the human spirit.

As we begin 2023, the hymn text shown below seems most appropriate as we encounter the opportunities and challenges a new year brings, both in our personal lives and as a faith community. The author, Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), was an English poet and hymnwriter who also wrote hymn melodies, religious tracts, and works for children. The words can be sung to "Hermas," the hymn tune paired with another hymn text by Havergal – "On Our Way Rejoicing" – found on page 537 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship.* In addition to the aforementioned hymn, three other texts by the author appear in our current hymnal: "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak" (*ELW* #676), "Take My Life, That I May Be" (*ELW* #685), and "O Savior, Precious Savior" (*ELW* #820).

1. *Standing at the portal of the opening year,*
   Words of comfort meet us, hushing every fear;
   Spoken through the silence by our Father's voice,
   Tender, strong and faithful, making us rejoice.
   Onward then and fear not, children of the day;
   For his word shall never, never pass away.

2. *For the year before us, O what rich supplies!*
   For the poor and needy living streams shall rise;
   For the sad and sinful shall his grace abound;
   For the faint and feeble perfect strength be found.
   Onward then and fear not, children of the day;
   For his word shall never, never pass away.

3. *He will never fail us, he will not forsake;*
   His eternal covenant he will never break.
   Resting on his promise, what have we to fear?
   God is all sufficient for the coming year.
   Onward then and fear not, children of the day;
   For his word shall never, never pass away.

January Worship Leaders

	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister/Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Zoom Monitor
Jan. 1	Not Needed	Dave Carson	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		
Jan. 8	Emma Miller	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		
Jan. 15	Jean Slaymaker	Brenda Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		
Jan. 22	Brenda Fetter	Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		
Jan. 29	Kathy Schreiber		Andy Anderson, Claude Grube		

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

Barry Becker

1160 Pine Hill Road
Lititz, PA 17543
717-626-7665
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
717-627-8815
Birthday: September 24

Doris Witwer

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

Time Change:

Beginning Sunday, January 8, 2023 church service will be at 10:30 a.m. and Adult Forum will be at 9:00 a.m.

Dear Members of Jerusalem Church,

Thanks so much for the extremely generous Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness is most appreciated, as is your strong support of our music ministry. I have been richly blessed to serve as your Director of Music for these past 14 years.

Best wishes to each of you for a happy and healthy 2023!
Roger

Lititz-Warwick Community Chest Food Bank

January Suggestions:

condensed soup– cream of mushroom, cream of chicken, tomato
*** rice - plain white or brown**
*** flavored baked beans**

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

Property Committee Update

1. Fire extinguisher inspection completed
2. Dusk/ Dawn light at the Portico repaired

January, 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day The First Sunday of Christmas 9 am Lessons and Carols	2	3	4 7pm Choir Practice	5	6	7
8 Baptism of our Lord First Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Communion	9	10	11 7pm Choir Practice	12	13 Deadline for Committee reports for the Annual Report	14
15 Second Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Communion	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day February Newsletter Deadline	17 6 pm Envisioning Committee Meeting 7 pm Council Meeting	18 7pm Choir Practice	19	20	21
22 Third Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Communion	23	24	25 7pm Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Communion	30	31				

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for Christine and Andy Anderson, Lynn Beard, Barry Becker, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Lillian Logeman, Byron Miller, Judy Perry, Lisa Riley, Vickie Salmi, Daryl Slaymaker, Aaron Stripling Family, Janice Styer, Greg Summers, Bonnie Trout, Pastor Dennis Trout, and Doris Witwer. 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.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

5- Janice Styer

7– Timothy Sweigart, Jr.

7– Harry Scheid

14– John David Wissler

22– Allison Clubb

27-Lisa Sweigart

JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6– Kenneth & Janet Craley– 1967

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

Cheri Kurtz 1/3/54

Lance Morgan 1/9/11

Patrick Morgan 1/9/11

Janet Craley 1/12/58

Brenda Fetter 1/30/49

Dear Jerusalem Knitters,

We are so grateful for the 30 knitted hats that we received this week from you. They arrived in time as we are assembling Christmas at Sea Satchels for the seafarers, so your hand-crafted items will warm both heads and hearts this Christmas time. God blesses us with your concrete and creative way of channeling God's unconditional love through Jesus. May your Christmas be a blessing to each of you.

Peace,
Pastor Marsh Drege

Seafarers International House

CHURCH OFFICE REQUEST

Please call the church office at 717-626-8972 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 ill ness 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.

Blue Ridge

Dear Community Member,

Thank you for your generous outpouring of support for our 13th annual partnership with Keystone Military Families ***Stockings For Soldiers***. It was truly a **record-breaking** year with **11,180 holiday-filled stockings** shipped to soldiers around the world just in time for Christmas!

Sincerely,

Cindy Mellinger
Blue Ridge Marketing and Community Relations Coordinator
Stockings For Soldiers Central PA Project Coordinator
cmellinger@brctv.com / 717.733.6006 ext. 2551

North Lancaster Conference Disaster Response Team

c/o Conference Dean's Fund
18 Quarry Road
Leola, PA 17540

The Rev. Bonnie Oplinger
Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
36 Church Street
Lititz, PA 17543

November 30, 2022

Dear Pastor Oplinger and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your generous support of our disaster response ministry! Your donation of $500 will go a very long way toward covering the costs of ministering to those whose lives have been disrupted by natural disaster. It is greatly appreciated and, as you know, reduces the personal costs of the volunteers who help to make a difference in places where our brothers and sisters are trying to rebuild their homes and lives after a storm.

Our disaster response crew is currently involved in responding to the effects of Hurricane Ida on the territory of our synod, in York County, and we look forward to resuming our travels in 2023 to other parts of the country impacted by devastating weather events as well.

Rebuilding after a flood, wildfire, hurricane or any other natural disaster takes years to accomplish. With your generous support, we intend to do all that we can, for as long as we can, to help. Again, your contributions help make that possible!

I very much appreciate your continued faithful support of the work that we do.

Thank you again for your support!

Peace,

Glenn

The Rev. Glenn A. Beard, Jr.
Coordinator, Lower Susquehanna Synod Lutheran Disaster Response Network

United
Lutheran
Seminary

11/17/2022

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

Amount received: $500.00 (Check #22795)
Gift purpose: United Lutheran Seminary Fund

Dear Jerusalem Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your recent gift. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and partnership accompanying us as we live out our United Lutheran Seminary mission of Unifying, Learning, and Serving as a welcoming and diverse learning community equipping people to proclaim the living Gospel for a changing church and world.

In May, commencement was celebrated in person for the first time in two years. Degrees and Certificates were awarded to fifty graduates. Graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 were invited to return and walk with their siblings. We are exhilarated as we learn where God is leading these graduates in their ministry of choice. As the fall semester begins, we are welcoming the newest group of future leaders to our campuses and classrooms, and before we know it, they too will join that same tradition.

Your support for theological education is a gift to our students and a foundation for the future of nimble leaders in our evolving church. Please let us know if our team can support you in any way. I invite you to reach out to us at advancement@uls.edu. We look forward to the opportunity to gather with you in person or by zoom in the coming year.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Conor Brooks, CFRE
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
cbrooks@uls.edu
717-338-3012

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 15, 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, Zach Fetter, Larrie Miller, Florence Morgan, Jean Slaymaker, Beth Smith, Patti Stripling, Mel Ravegum

Absent: None

Guests: Christine Anderson, Charles Sweigart

Devotions were led by: Pastor Oplinger

Meeting led by: Jean Slaymaker, Council President

Recognitions:

Homecoming:

Deb Carson, Joyce Burkholder, Janet Craley, and Emma Miller helped serve the meal.
Mel Ravegum got the cake.
Andy Anderson made the coffee.
Emma Miller made the punch.
Rene Amey provided the beautiful table and window decorations
Audrey Adams provided the prize gifts.
Ken Craley for sending out the invitations, doing the announcements, and handing out the gifts.
Emma Miller, Larrie Miller, and Jean Slaymaker for picking up supplies
Emma Miller, Jean Slaymaker, Brenda Fetter, for Caruso's meal planning.
Larrie Miller went to pay luncheon bill at Caruso's.
Emma Miller, Larrie Miller, Jean Slaymaker and Brenda Fetter placing tablecloths onto tables an organizing the kitchen.

Trunk or Treat Night:
All who participated and provided treats
Dave and Deb Carson, Pastor Oplinger, Ken and Janet Craley, Rene Amey, Jill Clubb, Joyce Burkholder, Zach Fetter, and Brenda Fetter.

Ken Craley, Janet Craley, Jean Slaymaker and Brenda Fetter for helping to put up and take down the outside banner.

Election Day Volunteers:
Janet Craley, Joyce Burkholder, Renee Amey, Brenda Fetter, Dave Carson, Lois Mearig, Andy Anderson, Larrie Miller, Jean Slaymaker, and Ken Craley.

The Envisioning Committee:
Dave Carson, chairman
Mike Fetter, co chairman
Brenda Fetter, secretary
Brad Clubb
Zach Fetter
Jean Slaymaker

Zachary Fetter for coming up to speed with all the office administrator duties.
Larrie and Emma Miller for setting up the candles for All Saints Sunday.

Reports:

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

Candidates for 2023 Congregational Council officers. Discussion took place. Will finalize at next meeting.
Pastor Oplinger shared a copy of Exit Evaluation and was accepted as written.
New Year's Eve Healing Service at 1pm. Discussion took place. It was decided not to do this service.

Secretary's Report: A written Secretary's Report from October 18, 2022 was distributed to council members. Zachary Fetter made a motion to accept the October 18, 2022 report as written. Mel Ravegum seconded and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: The November 7, 2022 Treasurer's Report was distributed to Council Members. It was reported:

Jerusalem will be receiving $8600.00 from the Jim Martin Estate and this gift is to go to the Memorial Fund. 10% of that amount, which would be $860.00, is to be tithed. Will discuss at a future meeting where this money should be given.
3 CD's have been renewed for a year at the rate of 3%.
Employee payroll services to increase from $3.75 per person to $4.28 per person.

Brenda Fetter made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, subject to audit, and Mel Ravegum seconded. The motion was approved.

Old Business:

Congregational Survey: Our Path Forward.
See attached copy of congregational survey results. November 13th voting displayed the choice results for Brickerville United Lutheran, full time interim (50/50) clergy person. Discussion took place. Patti Stripling made a motion that we go forward with Brickerville United Lutheran, full time interim (50/50) clergy person. Andy Anderson seconded and the motion was approved.

Marsha Roscoe, assistant to the bishop will be emailed with our council decision and we will inform her since Jerusalem has a new Office Administrator and Treasurer, we request that Brickerville United Lutheran be the call charge and fiscal agent for this sharing.

Council member candidates are still needed.

New Business:

The 2023 Proposed Budget was distributed to council members and reviewed by Larrie Miller. Items for discussion included pay increases for the Director of Music and Sexton. Discussion took place. Jill Clubb made a motion for a 5% increase in salaries for the Director of Music and the Sexton. Rene Amey seconded and the motion was approved.

Committee Reports:

Sunday School: Zachary Fetter and others will do Adult Forum in the future.

Worship and Music:

Nov 20 @ 3pm Amy Yovanovich Concert

Sign up sheet on Bulletin Board in the narthex for the Advent Wreath Lighting.

Soup, Study, and Sacrament will be starting. See Reminder Dates for the dates and times.

Cemetery: None

Memorial: None

Finance: See Treasurer's Reports

Property: Property and Procedure Manuel located in Pastor's Office. Internet password is now posted on Bulletin Board in Social Hall. Overhead fan in sanctuary will be checked. Switch is not working

Service: December 4th after Worship- Hanging of the Greens will be sponsoring 4 families with food gift cards this Christmas.

Stewardship: Commitment cards are still being accepted.

Reminder Dates:

November 20: 3pm Concert with Amy Yovanovich

December 4: Congregational Meeting and Hanging of the Greens

December 18: Pastor Oplinger's Retirement Celebration.

Soup, Study, and Sacrament:

11/30, 12/7, 12/14, and 12/21 at 5:30 pm.

12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22 at 11:30 am.

Next Meeting: December 20, 2022

Announcements/Correspondences: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Fetter, Council Secretary

Jerusalem Evangelical
Lutheran Church
36 Church Street
Lititz, PA 17543

January, 2023

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

36 Church Street, Rothsville (Lititz), Pennsylvania 17543

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

Pastor's email: jlcpastr@ptd.net

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

Rev. Dr. Daniel M. Yeiser, *Interim Pastor*

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

Beth Smith, *Treasurer*

Zachary Fetter*, Office Administrator*

Joan C. Dull, *Sexton*

Congregation, *Ministers*