

THE LUTHERAN LETTER

NEWSLETTER

June 2022

You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. (Matthew 5:43-45)

Loving and caring for your neighbor is an important aspect of stewardship. Yes, that's correct. Stewardship is part of everything we say and do and every decision we make. God has entrusted much to us, and that includes one another. And if you think being a good steward of financial resources is tough, how much more difficult do you think it is to be a good steward of the one who is different from you, much less one whom you consider to be your enemy?

Jesus clearly cares about how we treat one another. The “Sermon on the Mount” is full of teachings about proper human relationships. Most people pride themselves on being good, law-abiding citizens, but it's not enough simply to avoid doing harm to one's neighbor. Jesus calls us also to work actively on behalf of our neighbors, to seek their good, and even to pray for those who torment or would harm us. That is one tall order.

All one has to do is turn on the news or scroll through a Twitter feed to see horrific stories of the injustices we humans heap upon others. From Mariupol to Buffalo and points everywhere in between, humankind's inhumanity to humankind fills daily headlines.

“Resentment is like drinking poison and then hoping it will kill your enemies.” — Nelson Mandela

When Jesus commands us to pray for our enemies and to love them, he commands a difficult thing. Yet, all of our Lord's commands are ultimately designed to bring us to renewed life. Forgiveness has been scientifically proven to lead to better physical and mental health. Nelson Mandela knew a lot about enemies, yet he also knew that resentment poisons only the one who harbors the feeling.

I invite you today to think of one person you need to forgive and to write that name on a small slip of paper. Now place that paper in your bible and pray to God to help bring about forgiveness, even in the toughest situations. Remember that forgiveness may not come immediately, but rather may happen in stages. It has to be worked at sometimes, but when it happens it brings with it freedom and new possibility. In the act of physically naming and writing the person who is to be forgiven, you may find release and healing.

Pastor Camp



*Sacred
Voices*

An Exciting Musical Opportunity for ULC and the greater Schnecksville Area. If you enjoy singing, want to keep your voice in shape over the summer, and

even have a bit of a challenge, Susan Frickert invites you to participate in a “Summer of Song” with her ecumenical choir, Sacred Voices. Susan is the founder and director of this wonderful group since 2002. They rehearse Thursdays from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., and present a concluding concert on Sunday, September 25. This year’s concert theme is “Sights Turned Into Song” and will feature several pieces actually composed during the pandemic dealing with the issues we’ve all faced, such as solitude/community; hate/love; sorrow/joy; fear/faith, war/peace. There are no auditions and rehearsals begin June 23. For more details and a registration form (registration is required so that we have enough copies of music on hand), contact the church office 610-767-6884 or speak to Susan or email ministries@ulclv.org

In loving memory

David Schneck

Thomas Caton

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

The Fifth Commandment says we should not kill. What does this mean in relation to world hunger? On the surface, we might not see a direct relationship, but consider what Martin Luther said in his explanation of the Fifth Commandment (The Small Catechism): "We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor, but help and support them in every physical need."

Through **ELCA World Hunger** we, the church, try to help and support people around the world with not only food, but education and programs that will enable them to have more fruitful and productive, thus happier, lives.

In his Large Catechism, Luther expanded his explanation: "This commandment is violated not only when we do evil, but also when we have the opportunity to do good to our neighbors and to prevent, protect, and save them from suffering bodily harm or injury, but fail to do so. If you send a naked person away when you could clothe him, you have let him freeze to death. If you see anyone who is suffering from hunger and do not feed her, you have let her starve. It is God's real intention that we should allow no person to suffer harm, but show to everyone all kindness and love."

Through **ELCA World Hunger** we honor and keep the Fifth Commandment by helping people to have better lives, happier families, and to share the blessings they receive from God with persons less fortunate than they are.

It's your generous giving to **ELCA World Hunger** that makes it all happen. Please use the envelope in your packet of offering envelopes or an **ELCA World Hunger** envelope in the pew to make your contribution. And by doing so, you make a real difference in the lives of people as well as being faithful to God's Fifth Commandment.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for sending David Get Well Cards and Birthday Cards while he was in the hospital. Some cards made him laugh while other cards made him cry because of your kind words and prayers. We also thank you for sending us Sympathy cards with all your support and love. We never thought at the beginning of David's hospitalization he would pass away but God had other plans for him. He really fought hard and finally came to the realization that nothing more could be done and he told Pastor Camp he was ready to meet his maker. We thank all those who have contributed to the LED sign for the church. This was something David felt strongly about so no one would need to go outside and manually put the letters in the current sign any more. When he said he wanted to go to heaven, I asked him if it was ok for me to do this for him and he gave his thumbs up. We would be lying to say it has been easy but with God's help, we hope things will get easier. Again, thank all of you for your prayers, love and support.

Debra Geiger and family



Brooks Patrick Haugh

Baptized May 15, 2022



Emery Marsteller and his granddaughter's greeting members as they enter church!

Kailey, Natalie and Corinne Heintzelman

Our Lil Pantry

- Peanut Butter
- Regular Size Cereal Boxes
- Canned Vegetables

Parkland Cares

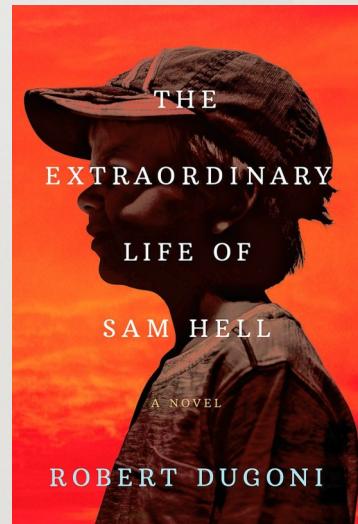
- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Ravioli/ Spaghetti O's
- Small Box

NL Foodbank

- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Mayo
- Crackers
- Granola Bars

Please consider donating to help the hungry in our community.

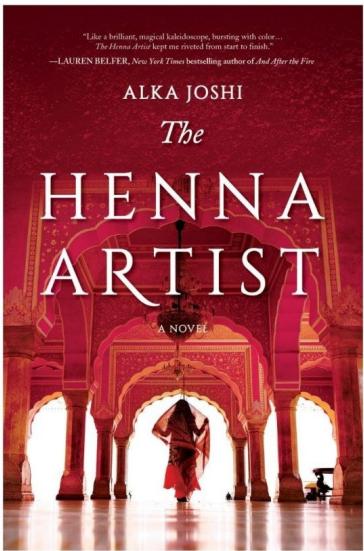
June Book Club



Sam Hill always saw the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he was called “Devil Boy” or Sam “Hell” by his classmates; “God’s will” is what his mother called his ocular albinism. Her words were of little consolation, but Sam persevered, buoyed by his mother’s devout faith, his father’s practical wisdom, and his two other misfit friends.

Forty years later, Sam is a small-town eye doctor who ran away from a tragedy that caused him to turn his back on his friends, his hometown, and life he’d always known. Now, Sam embarks on a journey halfway around the world that finally allows him to see what truly matters.

Join us on Sunday, June 12 to discuss *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni.



The book club’s selection after *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* is *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi.

Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own secret. Known for her original designs and sage advice, Lakshmi must step carefully to avoid the jealous gossips who could ruin her reputation and her livelihood.

As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she stumbles upon her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a high-spirited young girl in tow—a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does.

Watch for the discussion date in the July newsletter and weekly bulletins.

CHURCH COUNCIL

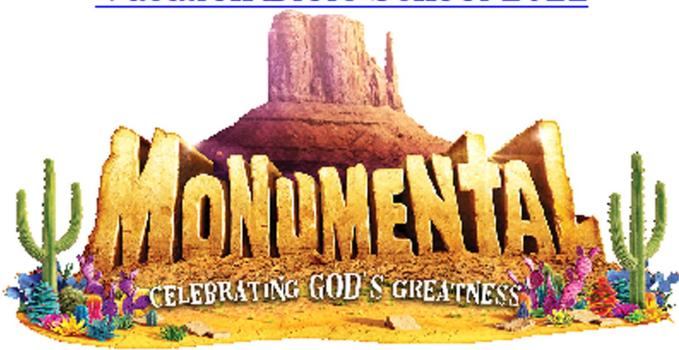
Report from May 16, 2022 Meeting

-Thank you to Patti & Terry Hoffman who volunteered to serve as our Synod Assembly delegates.

- New sound equipment is targeted to be installed during the summer.
- Christian Life created welcome gifts for our visitors.
- Reopening Team is monitoring the rising Covid levels. No changes to our protocols are suggested at this time.
- HVAC unit #9 replaced. Property Committee seeking bids for resealing/restriping parking lot this summer.
- Summer breakfasts scheduled after worship on June 5, July 10, August 5.
- Worship/Music decided to return the pew pad (sign-in sheets) to the pews in order to help folks to get to know each other.
- Financials - We are approximately \$41K lower in income compared to last year during the first 4 months of the year. We are still in a strong cash position and our finances should improve as the year unfolds.

Next meeting: June 20th @ 7 PM in Room 206-207

Vacation Bible School 2022



Sundays, June 26, July 10, 17, 24, 31
10:00 – 11:00 AM Family (parent & kids)

Join us in the Nave for skits, games, music & VBS fun!

All children ages 3 through 5th grade are welcome.
Parents, please stay and join in on the fun!

Register your child(ren) by June 12th:
www.ulclv.org



Today's
Coffee and Conversation
Sponsor

Sign up to host

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4BA4AA22A6F49-coffee>



Strawberry Shortcake Sunday

June 12th

after worship



Sat. July 16th

5 pm—9 pm

***Movie is:
“Saved by Ruby”***

Covered Dish Dinner in Family Life Center

Drinks and Popcorn provided

ministries@ulclv.org To sign up!

SUMMER

BREAKFAST

Jun. 5th, Jul. 10th & Aug. 14th

After worship

No admission charge:

Free will offering

Covered Dish

Terry to Make main dishes

Click the link to sign up!

ministries@ulclv.org





Congratulations



Abigail's Journey

On July 23rd, 2019, Abigail was on top of the world. She was at Lehigh University attending the Iacocca Entrepreneurship Program. She was preparing for her final presentation at 3:00. At 1:00, I received a phone call from St. Luke's Hospital saying that Abby had fainted and was not yet awake. When I arrived at the hospital, I was told Abby had a stroke due to an AVM and needed emergency brain surgery. After what seemed like forever, Abby was in the recovery room. During surgery, the doctor had to remove part of her skull so the brain could heal. Within days, Abby got pneumonia. One battle after another. Finally after 6 days, my girl woke up. She was unable to speak, move, etc. It was a very long battle, going on three years in July. Abby took a year off from school to recover. We have been through countless hours of Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapies. Lots of counseling, doctors visits, botox injections, in-patient hospital stays, Neuro-Psych evaluations. Through strength, determination, perseverance, stubbornness, and the Grace of God, Abby is on the road to recovery. Abigail will graduate in June and head to Thomas Jefferson University Honors Program in August. Abby is also going to be a Camp Counselor for Camp Cranium. It is a camp for children with brain injuries. Abby was signed up the last two years to be a camper, but due to Covid, it was virtual. She is excited, along with her brother Edward, to serve as Camp Counselors for a week.

It is still a long road, lots of therapies and doctors visits. Abby has Aphasia, which means her brain takes longer to process things which affects her thinking and speech. She forgets some words and has brain fog. She also lost the use of her right arm and hand. In addition, she wears a leg brace to prevent her foot from dropping and turning in. Lastly, she suffers from epilepsy and migraines. The summer is filled with doctors and therapy appointments. The goal is to get Abby prepared as best we can to be successful in college. The road ahead is long but the future looks bright! She is one determined young lady. She is my hero. We cannot thank our church family enough. All of you have been our angels on Earth. We will forever be grateful! Please keep us in your prayers!! We are extremely blessed!

Let's show Abby some love from her
church family with a graduation card shower:
8749 Cascade Road
Breinigsville, Pa 18031

Abigail Graham

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

Website: www.ulclv.org **email:**office@ulclv.org **Facebook.com/ulclv**
Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 ULC

Union Lutheran Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp
	pastor@ulclv.org Cell 610-554-8061
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
Asst. to the Pastor/Treasurer	Cathy C. Shaffer
Director of Music	Susan Frickert
Communication Specialist	Katie Stauter
Sexton	Terry P. Hoffman

Congregation Council Members 2022

Officers		Committee Liaisons	
President	Patti Hoffman	Worship and Music	Lynne Banzhoff
Vice President	Gail Lafferty	Worship and Music	Sherwood Geiger
Secretary	Kandy Lang	Library Committee	Robert Drews
Treasurer	Cathy Shaffer	Property Committee	Ron Pugh
Union Board Representatives		Finance Committee	Jason Marakovits
President	Brian Geren	Comm. & Reopening Team	Brian Geren
Secretary	Sally Grim	Social Ministry	Kandy Lang
Member	Robert Drews	Staff Support	Debra Grundstrom
Member	Sherwood Geiger	Christian Life	Barb Mahoney
Alternate 1	Lynne Banzhoff	Christian Education	Gail Lafferty
Alternate 2	Debra Grundstrom	Fellowship	Sally Grim