



# THE LUTHERAN LETTER

NEWSLETTER

August 2023

*“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.” – Revelation 4:11*

*As we enter August, the energy of Summer begins to ripen and mature.*

You may find that your garden is now feeding you some of your first Summer feasts, the farmers markets are full of young potatoes, ripe tomatoes, sweet corn, zucchini, basil and fresh cucumbers.

You may notice the Sun starting to set a little earlier and the light becoming a warmer gold.

Our European ancestors who relied on grains for survival waited to harvest and bake the first breads until August 1st – the midpoint between the Summer solstice (June 21) and the Fall Equinox (September 21).

No matter what your ancestral roots you are a part of God's natural cycles and seasons. You too are ripe fruit and your Summer is maturing.

The month of August invites you into noticing what is ripe in your life, what is ready for harvest, and how you can celebrate and share your abundance with your loved ones, community and God's Creation.

How do you feel more connected to your joy, purpose and God's vision of how you want to live?



# "From Lament to Praise: The Psalms"

*in concert*



Directed by Susan L. Frickert

**Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 4:00 pm**

Ticket Donation  
\$10

Union Lutheran Church  
5500 Rt. 873 Schnecksville, Pa

610-767-6884  
office@ulclv.org

Sacred Voices Concert Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. Under the direction of ULC's Director of Music Susan Frickert, this ecumenical choir of 48 singers has spent the summer months mastering some absolutely gorgeous choral music in preparation for their fall concert. This year's concert theme, "From Lament to Praise: The Psalms", will include unique settings of some of the Bible's most beloved psalms, crafted by composers from the 18th through the 21st centuries including Nicola Antonio Zingarelli, Randall Thompson, Richard Frost, Mark Hayes, and Rollo Dilworth. The centerpiece of the concert will be composer Dan Forrest's "Hallelu Yah: Three Psalms of Praise", written in 2022 and based on the final three psalms of the Bible (147, 148, and 150). Professional instrumentalists Andrea Wittchen, harpist, Linda Kistler, violinist, and Ben Kern, percussionist, will join us for a concert that illuminates these treasured scriptures celebrating God's eternal love, providence and grace. Tickets are \$10 and are available from the church office, 610-767-6884, through the church website [www.ulclv.org](http://www.ulclv.org), and at the door the afternoon of the concert.



## BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, September 2, 9 a.m., in room 202



Come join us as we embark on our next Bible Study – **“Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes,”** by Judy Yates Siker.

The author invites us on “a journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is – a journey of our hearts and minds, a journey that we will take together.” She invites us to be good conversation partners, sharing with one another as we experience the various lenses through which Jesus is seen and how these perspectives impact our understanding of Jesus.

This Bible Study consists of nine lessons each exploring the question “Who is Jesus?” looking through a particular theological lens.

For example, Who is Jesus according to Mark?

- ... according to Matthew?
- ... according to Paul?
- ... according to the Hebrews?
- ... according to other Abrahamic faiths?
- ... according to contemporary cultural interpretations?

Attending all sessions is not necessary for understanding and participation. Workbooks will be provided. Questions? Please call or text Linda Rebuck at 610-613-6196 or [Linda.Rebuck@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Rebuck@gmail.com).



**Fri Aug 11th 6pm**

*Berlinsville Hotel*

*4588 Lehigh Dr*

*Walnutport*

**Thurs. Aug 24th 6pm**

*Capo & CO*

*1375 Chestnut St*

*Emmaus*



Now is the Perfect Time to Join One of ULC's Phenomenal Music Groups  
and find out what you've been missing!  
You're never too young or too old to participate in Music Ministry.

**Junior Choir** (age 4 through 5th grade)

Music is the international language, *and the younger you start, the more fluently you speak it!*

Our Junior Choir rehearsals are full of fun as we learn how to use our beautiful voices to praise God, growing basic musical skills to enjoy for a lifetime. And we even get to sing in worship once a month!

♪Rehearsals Wednesdays 4:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. beginning September 6

**StarSong** (6th through 12th grades)

During the teen and pre-teen years, a growing self awareness of God-given talent and the excitement of mastering more difficult music builds confidence and self-esteem.

Working together for a common musical goal strengthens Christian faith and refines social skills.

*It's a real Win-Win situation!*

♪Rehearsals Sundays 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. beginning October 15 (Fall module)

**Union Chorale** (post high school)

The amazing lifetime health benefits of singing in a choir are still being discovered by the medical community. Regularly singing in a church choir improves physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health.

*It's a great stress reliever and a fulfilling way to enrich our worship services.*

♪Rehearsals Wednesdays 7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. beginning August 30

**Praise Band** (post-high school)

Have you ever listened to a contemporary praise song that made you feel inspired or validated?

*Imagine helping to actually create that experience of joy that lasts you through each week!*

If you love to sing or play guitar, you're invited to join us!

Praise Band leads worship the second Sunday of every month, plus combines with Union Chorale for a few "mountaintop experiences" each year, such as Easter Sunday.

♪Rehearsals Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. beginning September 2

**Glory Ringers**

Talk about upper body work-outs! Regularly ringing hand bells builds strength and eye to hand coordination.

At this time our existing bell positions are filled, *but we are always in need of substitute ringers.*

An ability to read music is helpful, but not required.

♪Rehearsals Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. beginning August 29







*This was just published in the Healthy You from LVHN*

## **Fill Your Cart With Heart Health**

Chickpeas

Farro

Frozen brown  
rice

Avocado

Frozen Garlic

Olive Oil

Salmon

Extra Firm

Tofu

Apples

Broccoli



These are the recommended food items that are  
Heart - Friendly



**Northern Lehigh** - Shampoo, bar soap, toilet paper, mac & cheese, jelly, canned meats

**Parkland Cares** - Granola bars and single serve beverage pouches

**Our Little Pantry** - Vegetables and cereal

**[Click here to donate and we will shop for you.](#)**





Do you enjoy working with children?

Do you enjoy sharing the Love of Christ?

Sign up to teach Sunday School on a rotating basis!

Josh designs the curriculum, you share on a Sunday morning at 10:15!



A long time ago, in a church that did not yet know the horror that was COVID-19, a bunch of children gathered once a month to engage in

some FUN! They were known as EYG (Elementary Youth Group), and, like a phoenix rising from the ashes, IT IS BACK! We are bringing back EYG! Watch for all the exciting events we have planned!



# ELEMENTARY YOUTH GROUP (EYG)

## SUMMER SPLASHDOWN

We are bringing back Elementary Youth Group (EYG)! EYG is a group that meets once every month or so and is a chance for elementary student to meet, laugh, and have some fun! Our first meeting will be on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm, which we are calling “Summer Splashdown”! We will be having a giant outdoor water party, featuring water balloons, sprinklers, and super soaker battles. We encourage you to bring your own super soakers, sprinklers/water toys, and most importantly... your swim suit and towel!! Feel free to invite a friend as well! EYG will be providing popsicles and drinks.

Please see the information below for more details:

**Date** – August 6<sup>th</sup>

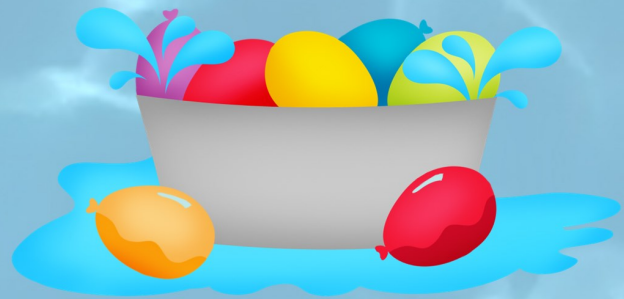
**Time** – 6:00pm-8:00pm

**Who** – Any elementary aged students

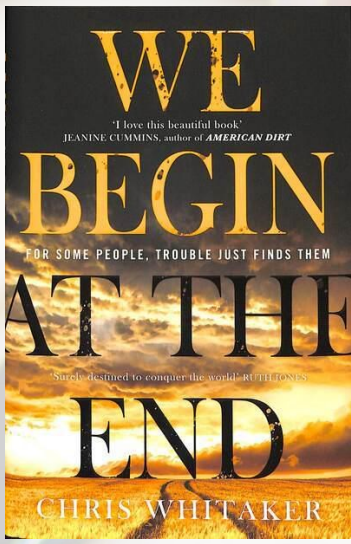
**What** – We will have a giant outdoor water party, featuring water balloons, sprinklers, and super soakers battles! We ready to get wet!

**Food** – Popsicles & Drinks

**What to Bring** – Bathing Suit, Towel, Super Soakers







Our next selection is *We Begin at the End* by Christian Whitaker.

Walk, the chief of police, has never left the coastal California town where he grew up. He's still trying to heal the old wound of having given the testimony that sent his best friend, Vincent King, to prison decades before. Now, thirty years later, Vincent is being released.

Duchess is a thirteen-year-old self-proclaimed outlaw. Her mother, Star, grew up with Walk and Vincent. Walk is in overdrive trying to protect them, but Vincent and Star seem bent on sliding deeper into self-destruction. Star always burned bright, but recently that light has dimmed, leaving Duchess to parent not only her mother but her five-year-old brother. At school the other kids make fun of Duchess—her clothes are torn, her hair a mess. But let them throw their sticks, because she'll throw stones. Rules are for other people. She's just trying to survive and keep her family together.

A fortysomething-year-old sheriff and a thirteen-year-old girl may not seem to have a lot in common. But they both have come to expect that people will disappoint you, loved ones will leave you, and if you open your heart it will be broken. So when trouble arrives with Vincent King, Walk and Duchess find they will be unable to do anything but usher it in, arms wide closed.

Chris Whitaker has written an extraordinary novel about people who deserve so much more than life serves them. At times devastating, with flashes of humor and hope throughout, it is ultimately an inspiring tale of how the human spirit prevails and how, in the end, love—in all its different guises—wins.

Book Club Discussion

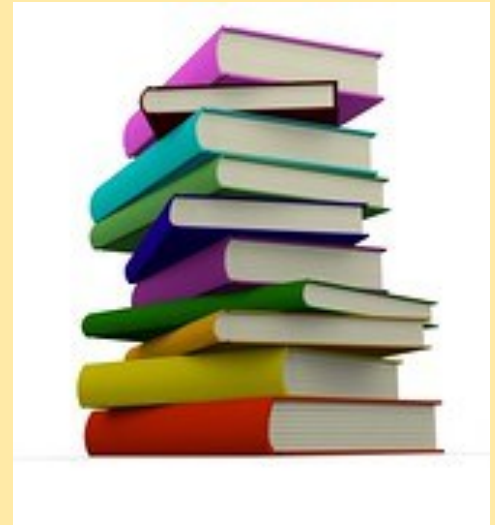
SAVE THE DATE

Book Fest

September 10th

If you are doing any late Spring cleaning, save those books!

Donation times and dates yet to come.



## REMINDER

**We do not accept:**

**Encyclopedia,  
National Geographic,  
Magazines,  
Cook Books,  
Stephen King,  
Adult content**



## **ELCA WORLD HUNGER—Puerto Rico**

The community of Cataño, Puerto Rico, is vibrant, with residents talented in music, art and sports, yet it also faces a number of challenges. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income is about \$18,600, nearly 12% lower than the average in Puerto Rico. Forty-six percent of people in Cataño live in poverty.

So, when Hurricane Maria passed through, the devastation compounded ongoing challenges and added new ones. Leaders of Tu Puedes (literal translation: "you can do it"), a project based at Iglesia Evangélica Luterana del Divino Salvador (Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Divine Savior), recognized the increased need and responded by providing both community support for sustainable livelihoods and counseling for mental and emotional wellness.

To aid the community, Tu Puedes organized a support group for people who serve as caregivers to family members with Alzheimer's disease. Providing care for a loved one is taxing work — physically, financially, mentally and emotionally. In the support group, caregivers found a safe, supportive place to voice their emotions and share experiences with others who understand what they are going through. The support group helped to create a community where the caregivers could learn from each other, be present with one another and be heard. Tu Puedes also offered relaxation workshops for caregivers and their loved ones and financial support following Hurricane Maria.

Your generous gifts to **ELCA World Hunger** not only help needy families in Puerto Rico, but around the world as well as throughout the United States. Please use the pew envelopes or send your gifts directly to our ULC office, marking them clearly **ELCA World Hunger**.



**Youth Group will start its  
new season on Rally  
Day**

**(Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>).**



**In the meantime, we are getting ready for the**

**ELC Youth Gathering 2024**

**New Orleans**

**July 16<sup>th</sup> - July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024!**

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

**CREATED**

**TO BE MYLE**  
the tAble Young Adult Gathering

**All eligible youth**

**(8<sup>th</sup> Grade to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**are invited to join an informational zoom  
session on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with Pastor  
Camp and the Youth Group Leaders. Please  
plan to attend the meeting if you have  
ANY INTEREST in going to New Orleans with  
us!**

**The meeting details are below:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88043973141?  
pwd=aFRmMzNZdmRicTRoOEphYk90VXFqZz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88043973141?pwd=aFRmMzNZdmRicTRoOEphYk90VXFqZz09)

**Meeting ID: 880 4397 3141**

**Passcode: 584020**





Sunday School will start its new season on Rally Day (Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>).

We are looking for teachers for this upcoming session! You could volunteer weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or simply be a substitute! The lessons will be provide for you. Please contact Josh at [suprman@ptd.net](mailto:suprman@ptd.net), call/text him at 610-844-8606, or message the church office if interested. Contact him before he contacts you ;)

***VBS: We had tons of out-of-this-world fun at VBS this summer!***

Thank you very much to everyone who helped make it possible! We could not have pulled off this space mission without our incredible volunteers! Please mark your calendar for VBS 2024, which will be held from Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024! We will be keeping the same format: 5:45-8:00pm, with dinner served for free from 5-5:45pm. We hope you can join us!



# FUNSTERS

With the pandemic now behind us there has been some interest expressed in restarting the Funsters' group.

**WHO ARE THE FUNSTERS?** The Funsters' is a ULC affiliated group of "Senior Adults" (loosely defined) interested in fellowship and participating in group activities. Our events focus on "FUN" and are self-directed, self-funded and member driven.

**EVERYONE** is welcomed to join in the activities as well as in the planning and development of the program. We are always interested in suggestions and ideas for activities that might have a broad appeal.

**CONTACT** the office for questions or to get involved!  
[office@ulclv.org](mailto:office@ulclv.org)



**Happy Hour: Join us for our first meeting of this new season on Rally Day (Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>). Our first session is "Music with Susan", where our amazing organist**

**Susan Frickert will lead us as we learn some music, play some instruments, and make some Joyful Noise!! It's sure to be a blast! Stay tuned...we'll be unveiling the full season calendar soon!**



# Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

**Website:** [www.ulclv.org](http://www.ulclv.org) **email:** office@ulclv.org

**Facebook.com/ulclv**

## Union Lutheran Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp
	pastor@ulclv.org Cell 610-554-8061
<b>Pastor Emeritus</b>	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cathy C. Shaffer
<b>Director of Music</b>	Susan Frickert
<b>Communication Specialist</b>	Katie Stauter
<b>Sexton</b>	Terry P. Hoffman
<b>Faith Formation Coordinator</b>	Josh Dietz
<b>Parish Nurses</b>	Dottie Bealer and Jane Borbe

## Congregational Council Members

<b>Charles Mosser, III</b>	Council President/Union Board Member
<b>Kandy Lang</b>	Council Vice President
<b>Valerie Snyder</b>	Council Secretary & Christian Education/Union Board Alt.
<b>Cathy C. Shaffer</b>	Council Treasurer
<b>Robert Drews</b>	Library Committee/Union Board Member
<b>Debra Geiger</b>	Fundraising Committee/Union Board Alt.
<b>Sherwood Geiger</b>	Worship & Music Committee
<b>Brian Geren</b>	Property Committee & Mentoring Committee/Union Board VP
<b>Sally Grim</b>	Social Ministry Committee/Union Board Secretary
<b>Debra Grundstrom</b>	Staff Support Committee
<b>Patti Hoffman</b>	Fellowship Committee
<b>Barbara Mahoney</b>	Christian Life Committee
<b>Jason Marakovits</b>	Finance Committee

A copy of the monthly Council Meeting Minutes can be found on the bulletin board in the upstairs hallway or in the church office.

