

THE LUTHERAN LETTER

NEWSLETTER October 2023

For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. (John 6:33)

Sunday, October 1st we will celebrate World Communion with Christians all around the world from all kinds of denominations. The practice began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA in 1933. As I prepare for the worship service, I am drawn to contemplate the one piece of furniture that is the most essential piece in any dwelling, be it in one's home or the church, at least in my opinion: the table. For me, it is the centerpiece of a home, the place of gathering, of feasting, of long conversations. It's a place of daily communion that transpires when family and friends pull up a chair and sit across from one another, break bread, and share their lives.

What is it about the table? For one thing it gives us space apart from one another to remain individuals, and yet, it draws us ever closer to one another through storytelling, through laughter, through sharing burdens. It's a level playing field both visually, literally and metaphorically.

I have many memories around my family's table, of holiday feasts, or sitting long after everyone else was excused because I refused to eat my peas, and of my brother pouring a glass of milk over my head when I made fun of his Rollin Stones tattoo.

As we come together to celebrate World Communion may we envision our brothers and sisters in Christ from around the globe sitting at all kinds of tables, and be awakened to their plights as they continue on their faith journey through many diverse wildernesses. And may each one of us see our own tables, both in church and in our homes, as the Lord's, where we willingly nourish one another body and soul.

Journeymen get cookin'





Our very own Journeymen prepared and served dinner for the Western Lehigh Lions Club Charter Meeting!

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Ryan, Jessica & Cooper Christman

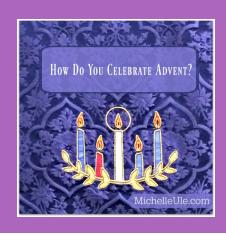
Save the Date

Advent Celebration

December 3

11 am—1 pm

Lunch, Crafts, family
photos and more!



WOW (Women of the Word) BIBLE STUDY Saturday, October 7, 9 a.m., in room 206/207

Join us – we're just getting started on our newest study



"Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes," by Judy Yates Siker.

In October, we'll be looking into how the Gospel writer Mark saw Jesus; what lens was he using?

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.



October 22nd

- -Tie **Fleece Blankets** for the homeless
- -Sunday School will be decorating **gift bags** for the shut-ins
- -Hygiene Collection

Combs, body wash, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush



October 26th Zio's Pizza

4660 Broadway Allentown

Tilghman Square Center



Stony Run Winery

150 Independent Rd Breinigsville, PA

5 pm October 20th

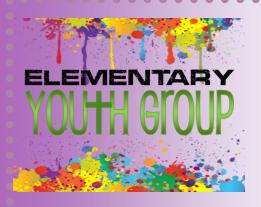
RSVP NOW!!!

October 21st 1—3 pm

Decorate a trunk!

Donate Candy to the office and be sure to join us for fall fun!





Fall Fun/Halloween Party

October 29th
1 1am after worship

Food, Halloween stations, friends.

RSVP NOW!!!

VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!



FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android

Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church*Directory and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.





HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY







Northern Lehigh

dry pasta, Mac & Cheese, canned fruits, canned vegetables

Parkland Cares

canned soup, Mac & Cheese, ravioli, tuna

Our Little Pantry

October: Cereal, Oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup

The following are the items we stock in our pantry

canned pasta, tuna, chicken, vegetables, fruits, soups - cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix syrup - dry pasta and pasta sauce - Mac & Cheese, peanut butter and jelly, applesauce cups.

Each Month we will be featuring a few of these items but feel free to purchase anything that is on the list for donation. Reminder no glass jars, please.

Click here to donate and we will shop for you.

Our new ministry, Hearts for Music, PA, has had a successful beginning at Union Lutheran Church! We hosted a benefit concert in May to introduce our community to this program which is a safe, accepting place for children and adults with intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities to experience the joy of creating music together.

This summer we hosted two camp experiences where members came together to create an unique orchestra which included a musical program on iPad, various percussion instruments, violins, violas, cellos and keyboards! The wonderful thing about our program is that no previous musical experience is necessary, but if you play an instrument you are welcome to bring it along!

We are currently holding weekly rehearsals to prepare for a special performance at the annual Eastern Pa Down Syndrome Center's Buddy Walk which will take place at Cedar Crest College on Saturday, October 7th. We will be performing in the big tent from 3 to 4pm and would love to have you join us!

We will continue weekly rehearsal on Mondays at 4:30pm and if you would like to volunteer to help or if you know someone who would benefit from this ministry please contact me at hfmpa@heartsformusic.org or call the church office at 610-767-6884.

Blessings, Jackie Bucks, Director Hearts for Music, PA

Happy Hour

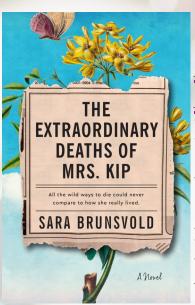
10/1: **Creation, Part 2**: Al Creation (Led by Graeme Camp): Continuing our 2part series on Creation, Graeme Camp will lead a session on 10/1 looking at Creation from a technological perspective. God created us, and now we have a chance to serve as creators of life; specifically in the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Are we playing God? What is our role? Join us on 10/1 to find out!

10/8: The Book of Revelation in a Nutshell (Led by Herb Gifford): Join Herb as he explores the book of Revelation (not all of Revelation, just the book). It may lead to you have some major "revelations".

10/15: Memoirs of a Service Chaplain (Led by Pastor Jim O'Connor): Pastor O'Connor spent time in the service as a chaplain. He helped to create individualized devotionals for various members of the armed forces. Join us in hearing about his time as a man of faith in a time of war, learn how he went about crafting his prayers, and experience some of the individualized prayers for yourself. We would especially love to hear from any other veterans who had similar experiences!

10/22: Hollywood and the Bible (Led by Pastor Camp): Come see how Tinseltown has brought to the movie screen subjects from the Holy Scriptures. Remember the big budget spectaculars from the Golden Age of Hollywood such as THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, THE ROBE, SAMSON AND DELILAH, KING OF KINGS, SOLOMON AND SHEBA, BEN HUR? Let's talk about the How, Why these movies were made and the BIG question, was Hollywood anywhere near the Biblical account?

10/29: Hallows Eve – A Telling of Scary Tales (Led by Herb Gifford): Bring your best ghost story and see if you can scare the other Happy Hour members! We'll take a look at some scary tales from the Bible. Oh, and I heard there will be a lot of candy!!



Our next selection is *The* Extraordinary Deaths of *Mrs. Kip* by Sara Brunsvold.

Aidyn Kelley is talented, ambitious, and ready for a more serious assignment than the fluff pieces she's been getting as a cub re-

porter for the Kansas City Star. In her eagerness, she pushes too hard, earning herself the menial task of writing an obituary for an unremarkable woman who's just en-

tered hospice care.

But there's more to Clara Kip than meets the eye. The spirited septuagenarian may be dying, but she's not quite ready to cash it in yet. Never one to shy away from an assignment herself, she can see that God brought the young reporter into her life for a reason. And if it's a story Aidyn Kelley wants, that's just what Mrs. Kip will give her--but she's going to have to work for it. Debut author Sara Brunsvold delights with this emotional multigenerational story that shows that the very best life is made up of thousands of little deaths to self. You'll want to be just like Mrs. Kip when you grow up!

Join us November 12 to discuss this extraordinary book.



"Project Warmth"

supports Northern Lehigh Food Bank

winter hats Gloves Scarves cozy socks blankets lap robes afghans

Youth and adult sizes New or handmade only

ELCA WORLD HUNGER: Nepal

CULTIVATING NEW CROPS AND NEW HOPE

Sunita Chunara is a freed Haliya in Dadeldhura, Nepal. The Haliya were a class of agricultural bonded laborers until 2008, when the Nepali government outlawed their exploitation. They were released from their bondage with no livelihoods, no income, no education and no political power. Some families were given pieces of land from the government, but often the land was unfavorable for traditional farming.

Sunita lives on a hillside. Instead of farming the land, she grows mushrooms in a shelter on her property. Because mushrooms are contained, use relatively low amounts of water and can be easily harvested throughout the year, they provide a much better alternative to tilling the land.

Before Sunita started mushroom farming, she worked over the border in India, like many Haliyas. But the COVID-19 pandemic drove her back home. Then she

had the opportunity to attend an eight-day training from Lutheran World Federation Nepal (LWF-Nepal) and its local implementing partner, Rastriya Mukta Haliya

Samaj Federation Nepal (RMHSFN), an organization that advocates for Haliya rights. From the training she learned the basics of mushroom cultivation, as well as business and finance skills.

ELCA World Hunger partnered with LWF-Nepal to conduct these trainings in several Haliya communities. In addition to mushroom cultivation,

participants could learn about vegetable farming, iron smithing or goat- and chickenrearing. With these livelihood opportunities, freed Haliyas can become self-sufficient and support their families.

In Sunita's mushroom shed — a wooden frame

covered by a black tarp to create a dark, cool, humid environment — she hangs around 30 bundles of wet straw from the ceiling. She then adds mushroom spores to the straw, leaving them to grow off the sides of the bundles. Sunita can see as many as four harvests per year, bringing in a steady income. Sometimes she takes the mushrooms to the community market, but she makes a higher profit when people come to buy from her home. The money is a lifeline for Sunita and her four children.

"I have just started paying insurance for my son, which I can pay from income from my mushrooms," she says. "All education expenses, household expenses can be paid from my mushroom income."

In addition to livelihood training and advocacy work, RMHSFN has a Transformation Education

Program (TEP) where Haliyas such as Sunita can acquire basic literacy skills, learn about their social and economic rights and explore such issues as gender-based violence and caste -based discrimination. Through the TEP classes and livelihood opportunities, freed Haliyas are empowered and equipped to build sustainable lifestyles.



Fall 2023 All sessions will be held at two location

Grace Lutheran Macungie

28 W Main St, Macungie, PA 18062

Monday nights 4:30pm - 6:00pm

October 2nd through November 6th

There is no fee thanks to the generosity of our sponsor, Kulik and Schantz Funeral Home

Heidelberg Union Church

5187 Irvin Rd, Slatington, PA 18080

Thursday nights 5:00pm - 6:30pm

October 5th through November 9th

> There is no fee thanks to the generosity of our sponsor, Heintzelman Funeral Home

YOUTH GROUP

Oct. 1

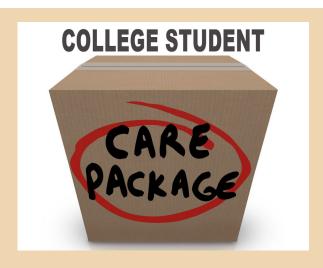
Volunteers needed to distribute mum orders to members after church service

Oct. 8

First Evening Youth Gathering Lesson

Oct. 21

Trunk or Treat at 1pm



The Social Ministry Team would like to show love and send our

ULC student members a care

package while they are away at college.

Please reply with your student's name, institution they are attending and a mailing address.

PACKAGES WILL INCLUDE AN ASSORTMENT OF **GOODIES ALONG WITH A SCARF MADE BY ULC'S VERY OWN PRAYER** SHAWL MINISTRY!

office@ulclv.org



Senior Day

Time: 11:00 AM

We are so excited to bring back Senior Day after a 3-year hiatus! Join us for an afternoon of food, drinks, games, and fellowship with your local friends!

Senior Day is scheduled for Thursday, October 19th from 11AM-3PM at Union Lutheran Church, 5500 PA-873,

Schnecksville. Doors open at 10:30AM. This event is open to any senior citizen who resides in North Whitehall Township. The last day to register is Thursday, September 28th!







October 27 5-8pm & October 28 9am-2pm Drawing will start at 2 pm

Pre-order Tickets 5 sheets for \$20 or \$5 sheet at the door

Ticket Sales: www.ulclv.org Office hours after worship

New Adult Socks & Underware or Bag of non perishable food = 1 FREE sheet of tickets

Kidscome in costume for a chance to win Giant Kids Basket



Oct. 28 3-5pm Family Life Center Pick up | Oct. 29 10am - Noon Family Life Center ct. 30 4pm - 7pm Front Dor

Kitchen will be open.

for High Priced Items!



Bookfest was a fantastic success! This year over 90 people from the church and community attended.

Hundreds of books were do-

nated and just as many were taken to be enjoyed. The Library Committee would especially like to thank this year's volunteers: Carol Schneck, Dana Busser, Sally Grim, Sandy Castaldi, Richard Snyder, and Terry Hoffman.









Calling bakers of all things Apples!

Apple Sunday

October 15, 2023

Bring your favorite apple goodies to share!

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

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

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

