

THE LUTHERAN LETTER

NEWSLETTER

November 2023

I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High. (Psalm 7:17)

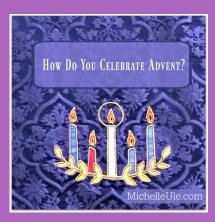
November is upon us, and with it comes that annual habit we have to

focus on giftedness and gratitude. Even though we are gifted every single day of the year, November seems to call upon us to take stock of what we are thankful for; perhaps it has something to do with the harvest coming to an end or that 4th Thursday of November? Either way we ask, "Do our lives reflect gratitude for all that God has given to us?" As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, what will you give thanks and praise to God for in your life? It's easy to be thankful for the big gifts that may come our way in life: the promotion at work, the new car, the special vacation. These are wonderful things and should be received with thanks, of course. But just as important – perhaps even more so – are those ordinary, everyday gifts of God in life that can easily be overlooked or taken for granted: health, loved ones, employment, just to name a few. As Thanksgiving draws near, the challenge for all of us is to move from thanksgiving to thanksliving. How will a spirit of thankfulness get lived out in my daily life? What will this look like in interactions with family members, neighbors, co-workers, and the person in front of me in the check-out line? For the child of God, each and every day becomes an opportunity to give thanks; it's so much more than just one day in late November.

I wish you a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving holiday, but even more, I pray that you will come to know the spirit of thanks *living*.

Pastor Camp

ADVENT CELEBRATION DECEMBER 3 11 AM—1 PM



Lunch, Crafts, family photos and more!



Althea A. Grim

Karl Drumm

Joanna B. Mauer (Jodi)

Kenneth R. Muth, Jr.

Coat Drive

Youth Group is hosting a coat drive for our neighbors at

Jerusalem House Ministries, in Allentown

Men's, Women's and Children

New & Used Coats

(in good used condition)

Collection the entire month of November

Drop them off during office hours or at worship



November 17 6pm

102 East Susquehanna Street <u>Sign UP</u>

"Cultivating Meaningful Conversations"



Stephen, Stacey, Elaine, Bianca, Amina & Steven Negron

Eloise Catherine Steele & Adeline Marie Steele



Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 15

5 dogs

19 cats

1 horse

Pastor, along with the Cat. Class, offered a blessing of the animals!







BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m., in room 206/207

Join us as we go further into our study -- "Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes," by Judy Yates Siker.

Last time we looked through the lens of the Gospel writer Mark who saw Jesus as "the suffering Son of God." In November we'll see what Matthew's gospel reveals through a different lens.

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

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4!

Library News

The library subscription to *Gather* — the magazine of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is expiring soon. We have been informed that they will be changing from the printed version to a digital version soon. The library cannot get a congregational subscription for the digital version of the magazine. Individuals can subscribe at their website — https://www.gathermagazine.org - with a special offer for new subscribers, you can get a one year of *Gather* (6 issues) for just \$9.95 — that's \$10 or half off the regular subscription rate.

What information will you find in *Gather*? The magazine guides you as you live and experience your faith every day. In addition to a regular Bible study, the magazine offers a mix of faith-in-life articles, theological reflections, devotions, and stories that speak to the hearts and souls of progressive Christian women. *Gather* connects Christian women of all ages with like-minded others who are committed to growing in faith and building the kingdom of God—next door and across the globe.

Library News

Living Lutheran is your source for news, reflections, and stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its local and global companions. We cover religious news and social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, family matters, spiritual practices and resources, and more.

As the magazine of the ELCA, our mission is to:

- Nurture awareness of Christ's presence in our lives and the world.
- Share stories of God's people living their faith.
- Connect readers with the global Christian community.
- Provide an open forum for discussion.

Challenge readers to bring God's grace and care to all.

However, we have been informed that the *Living Lutheran* magazine will no longer be printed as a monthly paper copy. Therefore, the paper copy of the magazine will not be available in our church library.

The magazine will now be available as an e-digest. You can sign up for free at their website: https://www.livinglutheran/subscribe. Articles will be delivered via your e-mail address.

Thanks to all who brought treats for

Apple Sunday!



Sunday, Nov. 12 Pumpkin Sunday



HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY







Click here to donate and we will shop for you.

November items:

Dry Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Mac & Cheese



Jane Borbe has retired as our Parish Nurse! Jane and her husband, David, have relocated to be closer to her daughter. We thank Jane for her many years of service to Union Lutheran Church. She will be missed greatly! If you wish to send Jane a note, her new address is:

338 Canvasback Road Mooresville, NC 28117

Youth Group: Youth Group meets every week from 10:15-11:00am. Join us for laughter, discussion, and faith-based fun!

Mum fundraiser was a huge success. The youth raised \$418!

Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser.

Here are some pics of the youth helping to load the mums into cars.



VBS: Please mark your calendar for VBS 2024, which will be held from Monday, June 24th through Friday, June 28th, 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 (and volunteer)!

Sunday School: Sunday School is in full swing! Join us on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:00am starting in the Family Life Center. We are still looking for extra teachers/substitutes. The lessons will be provided for you. Please contact Josh at su-prman@ptd.net, call/text him at 610-844-8606, or message the church office if interested.

Elementary Youth Group: Our next Elementary Youth Group (EYG) will be held on Sunday, December 10th from 11am-1pm (directly after Sunday School). We'll be making Christmas Cookies! There will be pizza, snacks, and of course...cookies!! We will collect some to donate, but we'll also be able to take some home! It's going to be yummy!!

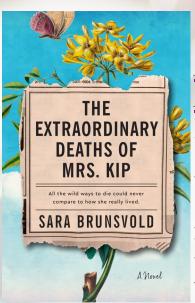
Happy Hour

11/5: Lectio Divina: Bible Verse Study (Led by Emily Black): Dr. Emily Black will once again lead a Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina is a sacred reading practice where you use a book as a "sacred text" (in this case, the bible) and then look for meaning related to a specific topic. Join us on 11/5 as we dive in together!

11/12: A Transgender's Story: Paradoxes of Gender (Led by Dr. Diana Sorrentino): Dr. Sorrentino has been studying, researching, and delivering professional development training on gender diversity, in addition to working with LGBTQ+ communities and their health care providers, for 33 years. She has doctorates in Sociology and Psychology, and is also a member of the church where Cindy Camp presides. Please join us on 10/22 as Dr. Sorrentino shares her story, provides some scientific information relating to gender, and happily answers any questions.

11/19: Thankful Turkeys (Led by Josh Dietz): Happy Hour and Sunday School join forces to do a Terrific Thanksgiving Craft! Join us in crafting something amazing!

11/26: NO HAPPY HOUR: Happy Hour will not meet on the 26th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Have a great Thanksgiving weekend!



Our next selection is <u>The</u> <u>Extraordinary Deaths of</u> <u>Mrs. Kip</u> 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 entered 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.

BIRTHDAY BAGS

Social Ministry is providing for the children on the SNAP program at Ironton School (the school we chose to adopt) for their birthdays. Each bag

Each bag
contains a pan,
cake mix, icing,
candles, plates
and fun party
items



ELCA WORLD HUNGER: Federal Way, Washington

If you visit the Saturday-morning farmers market in Federal Way, you might see Kyong Yon (Kay) Mattingly smiling and dancing with her friends from Dasom Bi-Cultural Cooperation, a ministry of Light of Grace Lutheran Church. The ministry hosts a booth with a variety of Korean goods for sale, but the members also seek to bring joy to those around them – and create it for themselves.

Kay says, "I always had heard that the Lutherans excel at helping churches in need, but after having experienced it firsthand, I'm just really so happy and proud to be a member of this church."

About midway between Seattle and Tacoma, Federal Way has a large population of Korean immigrants, and services to this community are limited. Given the aging population, demand for housing and rising cost of living, Light of Grace members recognized that members of their fellow immigrant population were struggling with hunger, needed help covering basic expenses and lacked opportunities for being in community.

With a grant from **ELCA World Hunger**, Light of Grace started a new program through Dasom Bi-Cultural Cooperation to provide space and support for fellow Korean-American immigrants three days a week. Tuesday through Thursday, program participants have an opportunity to cook Korean food, eat a healthy meal, create goods to sell or keep, and take advantage of interpretation services, social engagement and emotional support.

In every corner of the church building, you'll find people with various skills – altering clothing, drying herbs for tea, harvesting veggies, making Korean chili paste – executing and sharing their skills with others. They are chatting, laughing and buzzing with joy – building a community of care by generating a livelihood for the whole community.

Kay is grateful for the support she receives from **ELCA World Hunger**. She appreciates not only our financial commitment but how we accompany their community, "turning an attentive ear when the small churches report hardship, and inquiring what we need, whether financially or in terms of people; having meetings with us; not ever discriminating against us because we're Asians; and just being so attentive to our needs. ... I'm so thankful for that."

At the end of the month, Dasom distributes additional earnings from their goods to their neighbors, who use them to help with grocery bills, basic expenses and health care.

"This is God's work," explains the Rev. Jenny Kim, co-pastor of Light of Grace with her husband, the Rev. Sang Soo Kim.

To make a gift to **ELCA World Hunger**, use the envelopes in the pew racks or send/bring your gift to our ULC office, marking it clearly **ELCA World**





ULC Youth Group Thomson's Hoagie Fundraiser

Order November 1-19

Delivery will be November 28, 4-5-30 pm in the Family Life Center

Red - Cooked Ham, Cooked Salami, White American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Hot Peppers, & Italian Dressing Pack

White - Cooked Ham, Cooked Salami, White American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion & Italian Dressing Pack

Yellow-Cooked Ham, Cooked Salami, White American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Hot Peppers, & Italian Dressing Pack

Green - Cooked Ham, Cooked Salami, White American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Italian Dressing Pack

Orange - Ham & Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Mustard Packet

Tan - Turkey, Lettuce, Tomato & May o Packet

Black - Roast Beef, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo Packet

Blue - Tuna, Celery, Lettuce, Onion, Mayo, Eggs & Tomato

Veggle - Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Italian Dressing Packet

Select the hoagies by color and quantity and then: email office@ulclv.org_or drop in offering plate labeled Hoagies

> S5 each Money due at time of pick up (cash or check)

Click below to order your hoagies!

https://secure.myvanco.com/YK49/campaign/C-10KTA

Advent Food Collection

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a collection of food for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank and Parkland Cares that will take place like an Advent Calendar. Each day during Advent there will be a certain food item on the calendar to add to your box.

We will have a drop off for the boxes at the church the week of December 18 - 24, 2023 during office hours or at a worshipand will deliver for the new year.

Please be sure all contents are plastic or cardboard.

December 1 - Box of cereal

December 2 - Small jar of peanut butter

December 3 - Small box of granola bars

December 4 - Canned soup of choice

December 5 - Macaroni and cheese

December 6 - Chicken noodle soup

December 7 - Toothpaste

December 8 - Small can of tuna

December 9 - Canned peas

December 10 - Jelly in plastic jar

December 11 - Toothbrush

December 12 - Syrup

December 13 - Canned green beans

December 14 - Box of pasta

December 15 - Box or can of potatoes

December 16 - Pasta sauce in plastic jar

December 17 - Applesauce pouches/cups or fruit cups

December 18 - Small box Nutri Grain bars

December 19 - Small box oatmeal packets

December 20 - Small box hot chocolate packets

December 21 - Can of corn

December 22 - Can of Chef Boyardee pasta

December 23 - Pancake mix

December 24 - Can of chicken

Please join us and help our neighbors in need!

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 Nurse	Dottie Bealer

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.

