

THE MESSIAH HERALD



SEPTEMBER, 2013

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-6213
www.mlcmifflintown.org
mlcmifflintown@pa.net

THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR

35 SCENIC VIEW DRIVE
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-9425
pastoresborn@pa.net

[MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR](#)

[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)

[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

“Proclaiming God’s love revealed in Jesus Christ and his People”

The Messiah Herald



September 2013

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Why would or should anyone take a course called Lutheranism 101?

That is a very good question and within it there can be buried many different ways of understanding it. Do we mean I have already been confirmed and presumably have studied Luther’s and Lutheran theology before? Or do we mean why should we study Lutheran theology because it is more important to study Christianity than Lutheranism? Or do we mean why should I take time to study when I already come to church and Sunday School? Or do we mean how can taking the time to study this help me in the midst of my already busy life? Or even other questions.

The answer to the first question I already addressed last month. As we grow our faith needs to grow and mature, too. The reflections we had on God, Christ and spirituality as pre-teens and early teens most often no longer serve us well in the midst of the adult questions of life involving family, work, retirement, community, etc. It is good to reflect on how the structure of our faith as Lutheran Christians strengthens us to deal with those issues.

To the second question I would reply that the teachings of Luther and the reformers emerge directly from the Bible and are a way of hearing and seeing the word of God through a theological lens that can help us make sense of the world in which we live and how God continues to reveal himself to us. To be Lutheran is first and foremost to be Christian but it is to understand specific things about how we meet God and God’s living Word in Jesus Christ.

To the third and fourth questions I offer the following answer. Life is hectic and hard. Prioritizing one’s activities in life is incredibly important. A deep and vibrant spirituality and relationship with God through Christ brings those priorities into focus. It is an “a priori” act. Everything else comes into focus when we begin in the right place spiritually. Rooted in Christ paring and pruning away the relatively important and the unimportant become easier because we keep our perspective. We have attempted to help you by offering the study on both Sunday mornings during Sunday School at 9:15am and, also, on Monday evenings at 7:00pm.

One example of how our faith addresses our lives as Lutheran Christians in a contemporary world is understanding how and why our life begins and ends in Christ at the cross and how that changes the way we see everything as Christians. It is in understanding that freedom in Christ is not license but rather humble dependence upon God in the midst of every joy and crises.

We will begin Lutheranism 101 on Sunday September 15th and Monday the 16th. We will continue for 10 weeks to the Sunday before Thanksgiving. At that point we will evaluate whether to continue and how. If you have other questions please stop me and ask them and, also, check the August coverletter, too.

Please sign up now by contacting Judy Armstrong in the church office at 436-6213 or messiahlutheran@pa.net so materials can be ordered.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

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As we grow our faith needs to grow and mature, too. The reflections we had on God, Christ and spirituality as pre-teens and early teens most often no longer serve us well in the midst of the adult questions of life involving family, work, retirement, community, health, etc. It is good to reflect on how the structure of our faith as Lutheran Christians strengthens us to deal with those issues.

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

September 1: Luke 14:1, 7-14
September 2: Isaiah 57:14-21
September 3: Titus 1:1-9
September 4: Luke 14:15-24
September 5: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
September 6: Psalm 1
September 7: Philemon 1-21
September 8: Luke 14:25-33
September 9: 2 Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7
September 10: Psalm 101
September 11: Exodus 32:7-14
September 12: Psalm 51:1-10
September 13: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
September 14: John 3:13-17
September 15: Luke 15:1-10
September 16: Romans 3:1-8
September 17: Romans 8:31-39
September 18: Amos 8:4-7
September 19: Psalm 113
September 20: 1 Timothy 2:1-7
September 21: Matthew 9:9-13
September 22: Luke 16:1-13
September 23: Psalm 12
September 24: 2 Corinthians 8:8-15
September 25: Proverbs 28:11-28
September 26: Amos 6:1a, 4-7
September 27: Psalm 146
September 28: 1 Timothy 6:6-19
September 29: Luke 16:19-31
September 30: Revelation 12:7-12



PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer Requests will be placed in the weekly bulletin for one month.

If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for more than one month, please call the church office.

**DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS
AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!**

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULES

LECTORS

1: Ron Yorks
8: Linda Bahorik
15: Andrea Cameron
22: Diana Wise
29: Cynthia Smith

ALTAR GUILD

Aug. 26—Sept. 1 Kay Varner
Sept. 2—Sept. 8 Pat Fisher
Sept. 9—Sept. 22 Diana Wise
Sept. 23—Sept. 29 Christie Holderman
Sept. 30—Oct. 6 Linda Clark

ALTAR FLOWERS

1: Judy Armstrong
8: Neil & Pat Fisher
15: Rachael Diamond & family
22: In honor of our WELCA
29: OPEN



Messiah Women of the ELCA met Thursday, August 8, 2013.

Cynthia Smith spoke on Mary Ellen, the first chapter in a book entitled "Pew Sisters" by Katie Schuermann. This was a book she found at the convention at Camp Mt. Luther on July 24.

We briefly discussed the convention which was enjoyed by all who attended. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch provided by the camp chef and fellowship with our synodical sisters.

The Bishop spoke to us as did Chad Hershberger, Camp Director.

We will be serving the Presbytery on Tuesday, September 24, 2013. A menu was

planned—we may be asking for donations from the congregation. The Presbyterian church will provide all the desserts. Anyone who would like to help set up, prepare, and/or clean up, please contact Barb Geedey at 436-6433.

We counted items received for the school kits. We no longer need erasers, scissors, or pencil sharpeners. We will continue to collect the items until the beginning of October.

COLLECTION OF ITEMS FOR SCHOOL KITS (through beginning of October) – Items needed:

- 4 (70 sheet) notebooks, 8 x 10½ wide or college ruled paper “no loose leaf paper”
- 1 (30 centimeter) ruler or one with cm. on one side and inches on the other
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

Place any items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you would rather give money for these items, you may give it to Cynthia Smith or any other WELCA member.

SEAFARERS PROJECT CONTINUES - collecting items for the Seafarers Christmas gift set through October.

- casual T-shirts, medium & large (no slogans, etc.)
- sweat shirts, large & extra-large
- 3 pairs of socks
- 1 heavy knit winter cap

Please place collected items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

SOAP PROJECT CONTINUES - collecting new bath size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of any brand soap in its original wrapping (boxes are accepted). There is a wash tub in the

Adult Sunday School Room for soap donations. **“Rub-a-dub-dub, let’s fill the tub”** for Lutheran World Relief.

The next WELCA meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. will consist of putting together the numerous kits that we will be sending to Lutheran World Relief in October. Anyone who would like to help is welcome. Cynthia Smith and Linda Leister will provide light refreshments.



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

LOCUST GROVE

Jean McNaight (Cottage #5)
Ethel Bossinger Sue Collins
Sis Stetler Florence Beasom

BROOKLINE

Flo Beale Virginia Feaster
Marian Gross

Jane Marhefka
351 Village Blvd.
Mifflintown, PA 17059
(Ph: 436-5332)

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER

Carol Simonton

NORTH RIDGE CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING, McALISTERVILLE

Dorothy Cleck

HONNEMAN HOUSE, THOMPSONTOWN

Ruth Cisney Ray Bramm

ELMCROFT OF REEDSVILLE

Helen Knox

VILLAGE AT WILLOW LANE, MACUNGIE, PA

Lura Aughey
6488 Alburty Road
Macungie, PA 18062
(Ph: 610-421-8100)

AT HOME

Reba Sigler Cassie Smith
Whitey & Mona Lawson
Kitty Walters
Fay McCormick
George & Mary Lorraine Hazard

OTHERS OF CONCERN

Craig Walker
Dorothy Patterson, Richfield Senior
Living Center (Cindy Van Gavree's
Mother)
Evelyn Spriggle, Brookline (Ann
Beaver's Mother)

NEW TREASURER NEEDED

Messiah is in need of a new treasurer to replace Ken Eyler after his many years of service.

If you would like details, please contact Executive Director Guy Dillman or Pastor Esborn.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Volunteer drivers and cooks are needed and people to help assemble meals.

If you have some spare time and can help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

Individuals, church groups, or Sunday School classes who would like to make a contribution to the Meals-On-Wheels program, your continued support would be greatly appreciated. Contributions can be sent to:

Juniata Meals-On-Wheels
P.O. Box 251
Mifflintown, PA 17059

SUMMER SCHEDULE ENDS

Early summer services will continue through September 1, 2013 at 9:15 a.m.

Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on September 8, 2013 with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.



“THE NEEDLERS”

“The Needlers” will continue their sewing project on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Anyone interested in helping to make patch quilts for local and World Relief, please come and join us!

PRAYER CHAIN

The current Prayer Chain will be deactivated and a new one started. If you would like to receive emails for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie Kint at dskint@nmax.net.

A new phone chain will also be established. If you wish to receive phone calls for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie at 436-6341.



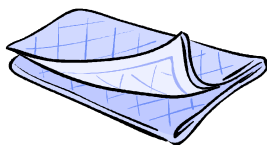
FALL BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study on Lutheranism 101 will be held beginning on Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 9:15 a.m. and Monday, September 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Sunday School Room near the Library.

Material is from the Concordia Publishing House and the text for the class will cost \$20 and can be found at [LUTHERANISM 101 text Amazon](#) and in [Kindle Edition](#).

Anyone wanting to join Messiah as their church home can use this course as their new member class.

Please contact the church office at 436-6213 if you wish to attend so materials can be ordered.



BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 6, 2013.

Along with all ELCA congregations, you are invited to make a donation to Lutheran World Relief in the special Blanket Sunday envelopes that are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

Please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA and take this opportunity to serve as Christ's helping hands in our world today!

VOTERS ASSEMBLY

The next Voters Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, September 15, 2013 following the morning worship service.

Business: Quarterly reports of the boards. **NOTE:** PPC Board Directors are asked to submit their proposed 2014 budgets to Ken Eyler by [October 15, 2013](#).

You may place them in Ken's mailbox in the church office or by email to keyler@nmax.net

NEW MEMBER CLASS

A New Member Class will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library area.

If you wish to attend, please contact the church office.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Property Committee meeting on Monday, September 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

We have not had a meeting since May, so there are items to be discussed. Please plan to attend. If you are unable to attend, please let Kay Varner know.

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away.

"Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer," said his mother. "I don't need to," the boy replied. "Of course, you do," mother insisted. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house." "That's at our house," Johnny explained. "But this is Grandma's house and SHE knows how to cook."



CROP WALK

The Juniata County CROP WALK will be held (**rain or shine**) on Sunday, October 6, 2013 at Walker Township Park (route 322, Port Royal exit). Short Walk will be 3 laps and Long Walk will be 15 laps. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the Walk begins at 1:30 p.m. Please bring all pledge money on Walk day.

This year there are no incentive prizes for a certain amount of pledges. Everyone will receive a small 'thank you' gift for participating. There will be drawings for prizes periodically during Walk time. We will try to provide some sort of games or diversionary activities throughout the afternoon.

Donated items for the Food Pantry will be collected at the Walk. Needs include: PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, etc. CLEANING SUPPLIES like all-purpose cleansers, bleach, trash bags, laundry detergent, dish detergent, etc. PAPER PRODUCTS such as paper towels, toilet tissue, tissues. INFANT NEEDS like diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotions. NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS. Twenty-five percent of pledge money will go to the Food Pantry and the Meals-On-Wheels program. Thank you for all donations!

If you have questions, please contact Becky Zeigler at 463-2309 or Kathy Whitesel at 436-2401. Sign-up sheet and donation envelopes are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

JUNIATA COUNTY FAIR WORSHIP SERVICE

The annual Juniata County Fair Community Worship Service will be held at Port Royal Lutheran Church on Fourth and Market Streets on Sunday, September 1, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. (**please note that time**

and location have changed). A free-will offering will be collected to help local charities.

Those attending will receive a hand stamp that will allow them free admission to the Juniata County Fair on that evening.

The Boyz and saxophonist Brad Eargle will be providing special music. Liz Shea will provide keyboard accompaniment.

Anyone who would like to sing with the volunteer choir should send a quick note to Kevin Cunningham, 644 Cunningham Road, Mifflintown, PA 17059 or you may email to kcunningham@embarqmail.com. Having an advance headcount of interested singers will help as we plan for the choir seating area.

Volunteer singers will simply be helping to provide vocal support for the church service. Hymns will include "Amazing Grace," "This Is My Father's World" and "On Our Way Rejoicing." Choir members should report to the church social room 20-30 minutes prior to the beginning of the service.

HELP NEEDED

A dish washer is needed at the Juniata County Fair Port Royal Lutheran Church Stand, September 2nd through September 7th. Stand will also be open Saturday, August 31st from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a paid position with free admission to the fair grounds and all the food you can eat at Port Royal Lutheran Church Fair Stand!

Please call Tierney Hostler at 527-4433 or Pam Pray at 527-2742 for more information, or you may reply to the following email: prparish@embarqmail.com



HELP AVAILABLE

If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help.

For more information, contact Michael "Doc" Johnston at 436-9209 or Cynthia Smith at 436-8512.



Juniata County Food Pantry September Update

What a blessing all the healthy fresh produce pouring into the Food Pantry! Thank you for sharing the Lord's bounty with your neighbors in need! Now that summer's over, we're hoping that we can fill some other persistently empty shelves, too.

In July 2013, the Food Pantry served 331 families in need – a total of 1005 individuals. Many thanks to our faithful churches who supported us with donations of food, supplies and money in June. A special thank you to Port Royal Lutheran Church for providing volunteers for the month of July.

Fundraisers and Food Drives: Weis is holding a "Fight Hunger" food drive the month of September with donations benefiting the Food Pantry. Add the Food Pantry to your Weis shopping list!

We thank you sincerely for whatever help you are able to give.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER

FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE, ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS,
SHAMPOO, OVER-THE-COUNTER PAIN AND COLD MEDICINES,
DISHWASHING SOAP AND ALL-PURPOSE CLEANERS

WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL STORES

PLASTIC AND PAPER GROCERY BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

***REMEMBER, OUR VESTIBULE (LOCATED ON THE RAMP SIDE OF THE BUILDING)
IS OPEN TO RECEIVE DONATIONS ANY HOUR, ANY DAY!
CASH OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS MAY BE DEPOSITED THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT.**

**HOURS: MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY, 2:00 – 6:00 PM AND SATURDAY, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
CLOSED ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SUNDAY.**

***PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATACOUNTY FOOD PANTRY, P.O. BOX 44, 114 N. MAIN ST.,
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 436-9718 (CONTACT PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH).
Email: jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com**

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP DRIESEN

RE: CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY



uss-elca.org/pastoral-letter-from-bishop-driesen-re-churchwide-assembly

August 22, 2013

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The churchwide assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America met for the first time on the territory of Region 8, a region of the church that includes the Upper Susquehanna Synod. While in Pittsburgh, a number of important actions were undertaken by our church including the election of a new presiding bishop and secretary.

Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson had indicated his willingness to serve another six-year term, having already served for twelve years. I believe that contemporary wisdom suggested that he would be re-elected on the second or third ballot, but for reasons only known to the Holy Spirit, it was not to be. Instead, the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, the bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod was elected on the fifth ballot with a strong showing beginning on the third ballot.

Three of the candidates being considered by the assembly in addition to Bishop Hanson were women, and I believe that is one of the factors that resulted in the election of a new bishop. Many believed, including me, that the time had come for this church to affirm the many gifts of the women in this church. Others seemed to believe that a bishop's term of office should be limited to two terms (12 years) and, therefore, looked for another candidate. I also suspect, however, that another significant factor was Bishop Eaton's directness and her affirmation in her address to the assembly that ours continue to be a welcoming church, but a welcome that includes those who disagree with the action's taken by the church in 2009 related to human sexuality.

I have known Bishop Eaton for six years, since we serve together on the Conference of Bishops. I think she is an exciting choice. I know her to be thoughtful, down-to-earth, humorous, and collaborative. She, no doubt, will lead us with courage as we move into God's future. In speaking to the assembly, Bishop Eaton shared her conviction that the renewal of the church must begin with recapturing our Christian identity, an identity which is distinct from the culture in which we live, and affirmed a servant theology of the cross in a culture of glory.

Bishop Hanson was wonderfully gracious and expressed confidence in Bishop Eaton's leadership. "When I stood before you 12 years ago" he said, "I told you this is not an election won, this is a call received. And now this call has been extended to Bishop Eaton." "This call process," he continued, "was a call process for new leadership. In our history we have never looked back. We have always looked ahead." On numerous occasions, the assembly made clear its appreciation and affection for Bishop Hanson and his leadership. "This is a humble and a holy privilege," he said to the assembly, "to serve the gospel as the pastor of this whole church."

In still another important election, former bishop W. Christopher Boerger of the Northwestern Washington Synod, was elected Secretary of the ELCA, succeeding Mr. David Swartling who announced that he was not interested in serving a second term. A trained parliamentarian, he and Bishop Eaton will make a great team. I have every confidence the ELCA will be well served by these

two new officers along with our Vice President, Carlos Pena.

In other business, the assembly approved the ELCA's first major fundraising campaign. With a goal set for \$198 million, the five-year campaign, to begin in 2014, is designed to increase our ability to renew and start new congregations, educate and develop leaders, bolster our global mission efforts and expand the impact of our relief and development work. Voting members approved two amendments to the proposed campaign by adding the additional priorities of forming lay youth and young adult leaders and strengthening our disability ministry.

The Assembly also adopted a new social statement, "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries." The statement addresses many questions being asked about our criminal justice system, calls upon us to offer compassion and hospitality to all who are engaged by this system – including victims of crime, offenders and their families – and to work to ensure a just system. This statement is now a part of the official teachings of the ELCA, and it can be a useful educational tool for your congregation.

Among the many memorials received by the assembly, there were two from the Upper Susquehanna Synod. The first was related to the issue of Horizontal Slickwater Hydraulic Fracturing and urged that ELCA members inform and educate themselves about the issues pertaining to hydraulic fracturing, contact their national and state legislators regarding specific legislation and policies, and encourage its rostered leaders to work with their communities to establish responsive leadership to help facilitate discussion and resolve conflicts which may arise. While the precise language proposed by our synod assembly was not adopted, the major thrust of our memorial was supported.

The second memorial from the Upper Susquehanna Synod addressed the issue of peace in Israel and Palestine. Once again, our memorial was not adopted, since there were many different memorials proposed by various synods of the ELCA; but I believe that the action taken by the assembly was consistent with what our memorial requested, namely the support of policies that promote a fair and just peace for both Israel and Palestine, policies that do not punish one side or the other in a complex conflict but encourage positive incentives and build trust.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as a voting member of the assembly along with a dedicated group of clergy and laity from the Upper Susquehanna Synod. My thanks to our newly elected synod Vice President, Dr. Karla Bohmbach; Pastors Ted Cockley, William Esborn, and Josh Reinsburrow; Mr. Arthur Erickson, Ms. Crystal Bollinger, Ms. Mindy Bartholomew, and Mr. Jeff Mitchell.

Surely, the God who declares, "See, I am making all things new" (Isaiah 43), will continue to work among us as the ELCA, leading us into a new future for the sake of the gospel and the world. I encourage you to pray for the church, and especially Presiding Bishop-elect Elizabeth Eaton and Secretary-elect Chris Boerger. May they be instruments for the new thing God is doing, along with all of us in the Upper Susquehanna Synod.

May God richly bless you!

+ *Bishop Robert L. Driesen*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Always
being made
New.

25 YEARS TOGETHER IN CHRIST

We, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), celebrate our 25th anniversary in 2013. We are a church that is deeply rooted – and always being made new.

Mark your calendar!
“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday
September 8, 2013

For 25 years, the ELCA has been a church deeply rooted in faith and in sharing its passion for making positive changes in the world.

To celebrate our anniversary and our church’s commitment to sharing God’s love with our neighbors, your congregation is called to take part in a dedicated day of service on **September 8** known as *“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday*.

You work every day to welcome your neighbors and make your community a better place. Now let’s do it together as one body, using our hands to do God’s work in Jesus Christ’s name.

Imagine the nearly 10,000 congregations of our church serving meals, cleaning up neighborhoods, making quilts for refugees or simply visiting the neighbors who need us. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

More information will become available in May, including how to order your *“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday* t-shirts and a toolkit designed to plan for the dedicated day of service at: www.ELCA.org/25years.

To learn more about the ELCA’s 25th anniversary visit ELCA.org/25years.

Upper Susquehanna Synod
Treasurers & Church Administrators Workshop

Saturday, September 7, 2013

9:00am – 1:00pm

With registration, gathering, and refreshments beginning at 8:30am

Zion Lutheran Church
5th & Market Streets, Sunbury PA

Workshop Presenters

Barb Debski (Portico Benefit Services, Regional Representative, Bedford, PA)

...on **changes for clergy health care** due to the health care reform law, through Portico Benefit Services (formerly known as ELCA Board of Pensions)

Jeff Crossland (Lawyer & Tax Preparer, The Crossland Group, Lewisburg, PA)

...on **clergy taxes**: what are the essentials of taxes and tax laws that clergy and congregations need to know; what is the simplest way to report accurately to the IRS; using the W-2; what do you do if the IRS questions you

Josh Reinsburrow (Pastor of St. John, Mifflinville, PA and MBA)

& *Jeff Bohan* (Pastor of St. Luke, Bloomsburg, PA and previously a CPA)

...on **church budgeting**: general organization, software recommendations, budgeting based on cash-flow fluctuations, health care rebate for churches, payroll tax rebate for churches

Upper Susquehanna Synod Treasurers & Church Administrators Workshop

Saturday, September 7, 2013 Cost: Free

Please register by September 3, 2013 so we may prepare enough materials

Name _____ Number in party _____

Congregation/Town _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Mail to:

Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA PO Box 36 Lewisburg PA 17837

Or contact Brenda Krouse at the synod office:

570-524-9778

Brenda@uss-elca.org

Upper Susquehanna Synod Day @ Knoebels!



Sunday, September 15, 2013

**The park will be open from 12 – 7pm.
The Upper Susquehanna Synod has pavilion P-5 reserved.**

**Arrive at Knoebels at your leisure,
pick up your pre-ordered discount tickets at pavilion P-5 beginning at 1:00,
spend your afternoon at the park.**

**5:00 – 5:45 Gather at pavilion P-5 for refreshments and fellowship with your
brothers and sisters in Christ from congregations throughout the synod.
5:45 – 6:15 Vespers service led by Bishop Driesen at pavilion P-5**

Pre-ordering tickets is only necessary if you would like a 20% discount.
\$20 book of tickets for \$16. Order by September 3, 2013.

We are asking congregations to volunteer to provide refreshments or hospitality
at Pavilion P-5 throughout the afternoon.

To pre-order discount tickets, or volunteer for hospitality or refreshments,
contact Brenda Krouse at the synod office
570-524-9778 Brenda@uss-elca.org

*Ticket pre-ordering for Upper Susquehanna Synod Day @ Knoebels. Make checks payable to
Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA (memo: Knoebels) PO Box 36, Lewisburg PA 17837. Order by
September 3, 2013. Pick up at pavilion P-5 on September 15, 2013.*

Name of person picking up tickets _____

Phone # _____ Congregation/Town _____

Number of ticket books _____ x \$16 per book = \$ _____



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

and the

Upper Susquehanna Synodical
Women's Organization

present

Annual Women's Retreat

All women are invited to come for a day-long retreat to spend some quiet time with God and with your sisters in Christ in the tranquil setting of God's creation.



Saturday, September 14, 2013

9:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Doors open at 9:00
Evergreen Center at Mount Luther

The day will begin with refreshments and end with singing and prayer. We'll have sessions during the morning and afternoon led by Rev. Carla Volland. The theme for the retreat is **"In the Footsteps of the Mothers of the Reformation."** Cost for the retreat is \$17.95, which includes coffee and tea, snacks, lunch, and the program. Registration deadline is Friday, September 6, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2013 REGISTRATION FORM

Cost: \$17.95

Registration Deadline is September 6, 2013

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Permission to take part in program:

I am interested in the policies, goals, and programs of Camp Mount Luther and the Upper Susquehanna Synod and hereby give consent and give permission to participate in this program. Any photos or video recordings taken in which I or my child might appear may be used for promotion of the camp/synod free of any claims.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Make checks payable to Camp Mount Luther with "Women's Retreat" on the memo line and send to the address below:



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

355 Mt. Luther Lane, Millfinburg, PA 17844

Phone: (570) 922-1587 Fax: (570) 922-1118

E-Mail: cmli@campmountluther.org

Inspiration for "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday, September 8, 2013



"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS" SUNDAY

Here's an opportunity to celebrate our 25th anniversary as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

On September, 8, 2013, let's join together as 4 million members, nearly 10,000 congregations, 65 synods and the churchwide expression for a dedicated day of service.

Let's clean up neighborhoods, deliver meals, collect supplies for refugees overseas, visit our neighbors or help a child learn to read.

You work every day to welcome your neighbors & make your community a better place. Now let's do it together as one body, using our hands to do God's work of restoring/reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world.

Here is a link to resources (bulletin inserts, T-shirts, toolkit) to help prepare your congregation's dedicated day of service.

<http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Welcome-to-the-ELCA/25th-Anniversary/Our-hands-Sunday.aspx>

INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS FOR SEPT, 8, 2013

Every year for the past several years, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in North Syracuse NY holds a Mission Sunday where individual members are encouraged to look at their community with new eyes, see a need that God is

calling them to fill, gather friends and family to help – and JUST DO IT! God's Work. Our Hands. Here are a few ideas from a previous year's Mission Sunday. May you be inspired to think of your own idea for your congregation's contribution to the ELCA-wide "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday, September 8, 2013!

For More information contact:

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or

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Homebound/Military Personnel Cards: The Advocacy Team made sure that each military person and each homebound person received a greeting card from Luther Memorial. About 30 were sent.

Lutheran World Relief Hunger/Water Advocacy Cards: Several folks "made a difference" by completing Lutheran World Relief cards that will be sent to Congress asking them to support development assistance for international agriculture, food security and nutrition and to support water projects that will help develop stronger communities capable of growing food, earning income and being self-sufficient.

Donations for the Military Courtesy Room @ Hancock International Airport – Mission Leaders delivered an estimated 150 lbs. of donations gathered to the Military Courtesy Room! The group toured the area available to the service members passing through and learned about Greg Harris (who the room is in honor of). Our goal was to fill their shelves so the troops passing through Syracuse will have food and drinks available free of charge.

Pay-It-Forward (FREE!) Car Wash – Several families enjoyed their mission day by providing a community car wash. We had a great day and lots of fun and laughs. We reached about 5 individuals in the community. One individual inquired about

Inspiration for "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday, September 8, 2013

getting involved with military efforts. We were pleased to say that our church provides this service and referred them to and also referred them to the church office as they were also looking for services for their young child. Our beliefs are if we reached out to one new family we accomplished a wonderful goal.

Helping Hounds Dog Rescue Food Collection Drive
Mission Leaders spearheaded this project in memory of their little dog of 18 years. Approximately 60 pounds of food and some cleaning supplies that were collected over the past weeks were delivered to Helping Hounds Dog Rescue, a shelter and adoption program located in Dewitt; cat supplies went to the CNYSPCA. Both organizations were very grateful to be remembered by the church members.

Kennedy Park Clean-Up – The Mission Leader enlisted her family members and off they were to Kennedy Park (off of Chestnut Street) to do some needed maintenance work on the park grounds. Unfortunately, the rain kept them at bay but didn't dampen their enthusiasm to help in the future.

Dress A Girl Around the World, Mission Leaders set a goal of making 100 dresses by September that will be sent to children to Africa. These delightful dresses are fast, easy and fun to make. Thus far, we have just about 18 completed, with more in the works. For those who wish to sew over the summer, please do so! We will continue to hang your dresses up in the fellowship hall and will report back in the fall with a final count.

Yard Work at Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare Women and Children's Program. Mission Leaders again enlisted family and friends to clear brush and provide needed yard work at the facility.

Knitted and Crocheted Squares for lap blankets for the VA Hospital – About 50 squares (and counting!) have been knitted and crocheted to donate to this worthwhile cause. A woman in the community will take the squares and crochet them together into lap blankets. One knitter helped a

great deal by getting us started with a pattern (size 9 needles; cast on 22; knit until you get 6" in length)

Syracuse VA Hospital, Syracuse Visit and Choir Sing-Along

The choir took a journey along with friends to the Syracuse VA hospital long term care wing. We arrived as folks were having their noontime meal. We sang for up to 40 people, when we first arrived. We sang anthems and favorite old hymns, with some trying to join in. One lady brought her dear one's wheelchair right up front to hear us better, while she sang along with us.

Parkrose Estates Hymn Sing

Residents of Parkrose Estates, a retirement center for independent seniors, thoroughly enjoyed a hymn sing combined with members of Luther Memorial on Sunday, June 12. Twelve hymns had been enlarged and duplicated by for song sheets and were led by an accomplished resident pianist and his guitar. Surely the Holy Spirit was with us as 38 of our Protestant and Roman Catholic friends were united in praising our Lord in song.

Garage Removal and Backyard Cleanup - Our very first mission project began in early May over a three day period and is just now wrapping up (officially!). During the winter, the weight of the snow had toppled an entire garage at a home in Syracuse. The garage needed to be cleared away and the debris removed and disposed of properly. Licensing fees, equipment and the talents of skilled personnel were donated by a local demolition company to assist volunteers from our congregation tackle this large job. Once the debris was removed, a crew from Luther Memorial moved in and did a great job sprucing up the backyard for summertime enjoyment.

Feed The Workers Staying to Work at Church – A Mission Leader's family made cookies, ham strata and hot dogs for the people staying at church who wrote cards to our shut-ins, provided a free car wash and other tasks.

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Brochures are available on the
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For more information, please contact
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For the **Family On The Go**, our Team Members can provide that needed assistance in the morning or evening for your aging loved one or assist with daily tasks to make YOUR time more available to the ones you love.

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Independent Living Services ~ assisting with activities of daily living, such as dressing, grooming, mobility assistance, medication reminders.

Respite ~ giving a primary caregiver time off.

Pet Care ~ providing care for pets (dogs and cats), walks, feeding, outdoor breaks.

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