



The Herald

102 Apple Street ▪ Leesport, PA 19533 ▪ 610-926-7176 ▪ www.lcht.org

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From The Pastor's Desk:

Dreams...according to Webster's Dictionary: a dream is a series of thoughts, images, or emotions occurring during sleep. Are you a dreaming person?

There are innumerable articles and books written about dreams...how to interpret them...why we have them...what they represent.

In the poem, The Night Before Christmas, we read "visions of sugarplums danced in their heads." In this poem we understand that the children's dreams represented their excitement, because it was Christmas!

In the Gospel of Matthew, there are several dreams experienced by Joseph and the Magi that related to the birth and infancy of Jesus Christ.

Joseph dreamt about the birth of Jesus and, following the birth, he dreamt about their safety in Egypt, and of their future return to Israel and their home in the town of Nazareth.

The Magi dreamt of a dangerous king who does not look favorably upon the baby the Magi have found.

These dreams bring us through the Advent Season as we prepare our hearts to witness a most wondrous birth in the City of Bethlehem.

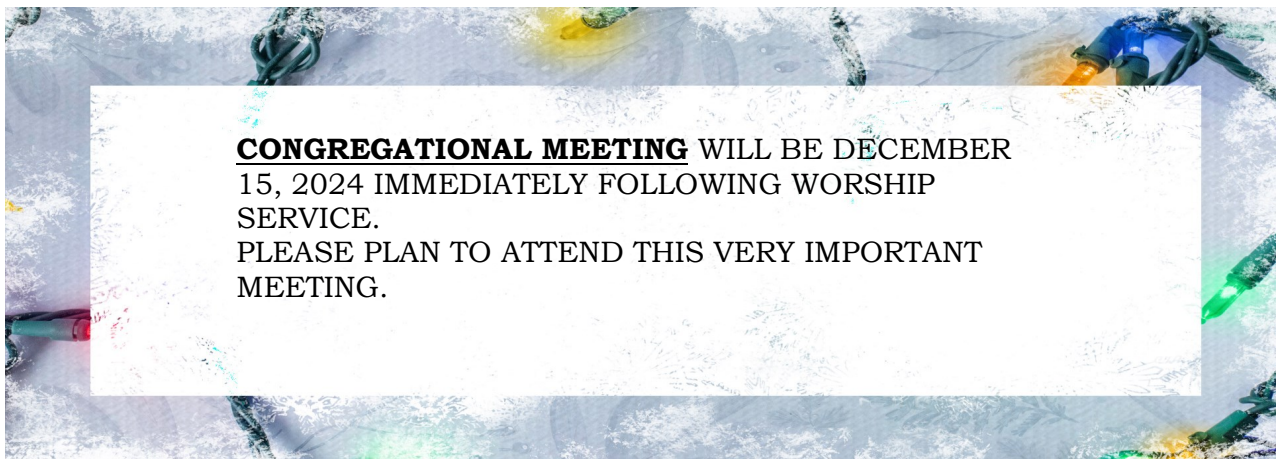
Richard A. Wing has said that "Bethlehem is a place from which, once you've been there, you cannot go home the same way. The shepherds may have taken the same road there, but the way home was different. The Magi were warned in a dream to 'leave by another route.'

Joseph and Mary would be warned in a dream to head to Egypt by a circuitous route. The road to Bethlehem and the road from Bethlehem are never the same. You can't bow at the manger and see the world in the same way again.

Keep that in mind as you dream your dreams for this Christmas Season. Are your dreams different before you bow at the manger from your dreams after you've been to the Christ Child's birth?

When you have found the Christ Child at the manger during the Advent Season, may you dream of seeing the world through the light of God's love.

Pastor Fran



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL BE DECEMBER 15, 2024 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS VERY IMPORTANT MEETING.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Worship & Music meeting was held on Thursday October 24 at 8:00 PM.

Worship services for November and December:

- November 3-All Saints Sunday – Worship/Holy Communion- Rev. Susan Fox
- November 10-25th Sunday after Pentecost-Worship-Recognition of Veterans - April Mulvey
- November 17-26th Sunday after Pentecost-Worship/Holy Communion Rev. Thomas Lang
- November 24-Christ the King Sunday- Worship- WELCA Thank Offering Mission Support Interpreter Georgia Suranofsky
- December 1-1st Sunday of Advent- Worship/Holy Communion-Rev. Steven Shussett.
- December 8-2nd Sunday of Advent- Worship-Rev. Robert Kramer.
- December 15-3rd Sunday of Advent-Worship/Holy Communion-Rev. Fran Merkel-

Congregational meeting immediately following worship service.

- December 22- 4th Sunday of Advent-Worship-Rev. David Kistler.
- December 24- Christmas Eve-Bell Choir-Worship/Holy Communion-Rev. Susan Fox
- December 29- 1st Sunday after Christmas– Worship- Rev. Susan Fox

Other Notes:

Sanctuary will be decorated for the Christmas season on Saturday, December 7th at 9:00 AM.
 Poinsettia plants will decorate the sanctuary December 15 and 22.
 The next Worship & Music meeting will be held Thursday, January 9 at 8:00 PM.



Worship Attendance



ATTENDANCE

8/25	25
9/1	21
9/8	27
9/15	23
9/22	27
9/29	25
10/6	21
10/13	24
10/20	24
10/27	27

ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

Submitted by Mrs. Woods



Fall is such a fun time in our classroom! Our school year is off to a great start and our students have settled in and are learning the routines and making new friends. We have started our letter and number books as well as introducing our monthly color and shape within our themes. So far we have learned about apples, fall, farm animals, pets, community helpers and a few more!


This year we were able to take a fun filled field trip to Brecknock Orchard where we got to go on a Hayride, pick apples and pumpkins, sample apple cider and play on their super fun play areas.

Looking ahead we have our Halloween parties and parade and our Thanksgiving feast. We will also explore the themes of pumpkins, Halloween, fruits and veggies, Thanksgiving and space.

We also look forward to our cooking week in November.

Our PM class has 18 students leaving 2 open spots and our AM class is full with a current class total of 16.






Five Little Pumpkins

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate,
 The first one said, "Oh, my it's getting late!"
 The second one said, "There are witches in the air."
 The third one said, "But we don't care."
 The fourth one said, "Let's run, let's run!"
 The fifth one said, "Isn't Halloween fun?"

Then Wooooo went the wind
 And OOOO went the lights,
 And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.



GIFT CARD PROGRAM THANK YOU







Gift cards continue to be available for Redner's and Weis. Giant gift cards are available upon request. All cards are available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations. Cards can be purchased after church on Sunday mornings from Phyllis Heffner. If Phyllis is not in attendance she can be reached at 610-926-1004. Please leave a message with your request and she will make arrangements to deliver your cards.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support of the gift card program.



NOVEMBER 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00 PM AA Meeting
3 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> 9:00AM Worship/Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Susan Fox</i> Bell Choir plays Deadline for submitting veteran names	4 1:00PM WELCA 7:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	5 	6 6:30 PM Council meeting	7 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal	8	9 8:00 PM AA Meeting
10 <i>25th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00AM Worship <i>April Mulvey</i> Recognition of Veterans	11  7:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30PM NA Mtg.	15 2:00PM Food Pantry Delivery	16 9:00AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:00 PM AA Meeting
17 <i>26th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00AM Worship/Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Thomas Lang</i> 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl meets	18 7:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	19	20 6:30 PM Berks County Soft Ball Meeting	21 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30PM NA Mtg.	22	23 12:00-5:00PM Tyler Miller-hall rental for Keller-Williams Realty 8:00 PM AA Meeting
24 <i>Christ the King Sunday</i> 9:00AM Worship Mission Support Interpreter Georgia Suranofsky WELCA Thankoffering 6:00 PM SVYS meeting	25 7:00PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving  7:30PM NA Mtg.	29	30 8:00 PM AA Meeting



December 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/ Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Steven Shussett</i> Lighting of the Advent wreath will begin. Bell Choir plays	2 1:00 PM WELCA 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5 7:30 PM NA Mtg	6	7 9:00 AM Decorating of the Church for Christmas 8:00 PM AA Meeting
8 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship <i>The Rev. Robert Kramer</i> Deadline for Poinsettia orders.	9 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	10	11 6:30 PM Council Meeting	12 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg	13 3:00-6:00PM Sandwich prep	14 7:30AM-12:00 Sandwich Sale 1-6 hall rental– Mariah Wade 8:00 PM AA Meeting
15 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/ Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Fran Merkel</i> Congregational meeting following worship	16 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	17	18	19 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg	20 2:00 PM Food Pantry Delivery	21 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:00 PM AA Meeting
22 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship <i>The Rev. David Kistler</i> 6:00 PM SVYS meeting	23 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	24 <i>Christmas Eve Service</i> 6:45 PM Bell Choir prelude 7:00 PM Candlelight Worship/Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Susan Fox</i>	25 	26 7:30 PM NA Mtg	27	28 AA Meeting
29 <i>1st Sunday after Christmas</i> 9:00 AM Worship <i>The Rev. Susan Fox</i>	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>				

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays:

06-Irvin Kauffman,
Amanda Schwendeman
08-Betty Strause
Rosemary Mowery
10-Ronald Kessler
11-Joshua Buchalter, Everett Graeff
13-Brendan Lenning, Kaitlyn Kuhns
17-Ronald Davidheiser
18-Renee Lenning, Sarah Yeager,
Melissa Strause
19-Amy Manwiller
21-Debra Yeager



24-Helen Stoudt
25-Thomas Heffner
26-Mason Clery
29-Donna Kessler, Wyatt Reeser
30-Patricia Miller, Gail Putt

November Anniversaries:

December Birthdays:
02-Nettie Kauffman
03-Suzanne Reiber, Sandra Buchalter
05-Sharon Mengle
06-Yvonne Graeff
08-Phyllis Weaver, Jim Beissel

13-Tara Lombardo
16--David Easterbrook
17-Dante DeAntonio
20-Larry Mengle
21-Tanner Mengle
22-Jenna Stoudt
27- Scott Trievel
30-Peter Greeley
31-June Gilmer



December Anniversaries:

04-Ronald & Melissa Strause
06-Kevin & Renee Lenning
11-Chuck & Rosemary Mowery

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, it means the office is missing this information. Please write your information down, drop it by the office, or email it to: lchtsecretary@comcast.net. Thank you.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

November Altar Flowers

03- Linda Roshong
10- Nettie Kauffman
17- Janice Care
24- Vicki Fetterman

November Bulletins

03- available
10- available
17- Janice Care
24- Vicki Fetterman

November Ushers

03- Lori Lowery
10- Vicki Fetterman
17- Linda Roshong
24- Daren DeAntonio

Nursery

There will be no attendant but the room will be open.

See the bulletin board to sign up to sponsor the weekly bulletins, and the altar flowers.

December Alter Flowers

01- available
08- Ron Davidheiser
15- Poinsettias will decorate the church
22- Poinsettias will decorate the church
29- WELCA

December Bulletins

01- available
08- Ron Davidheiser
15- Irvin & Nettie Kauffman
22- Janice Care
29- available

December Ushers

01- Lori Lowery
08- Dennis Savage
15- Vicki Fetterman
22- Lori Lowery
24- Linda Roshong
29- Janice Care



Poinsettias: Christmas is right around the corner. We will use poinsettia plants to decorate the sanctuary December 15th and 22nd. Watch the weekly bulletin for further information and order form. Order deadline will be Sunday December 8, 2023. Cost is \$6.50.

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

PRAYERS FOR:

- * Pauline Bond at Maiden creek Place.
- * Shirley Weist at Columbia Cottage.
- * Carole Imgrund in Elizabethtown.
- * Audrey Delong at her home in Leesport.
- * Richard Reiber at Berkshire Commons.
- * Betty Strause at Berks Heim.
- * Glenn Miller at the Highlands.
- * Ron Corl recovering at home.
- * Judy Wert recovering at home.
- * Walter Heffner at the Highlands Rehab.
- * All our servicemen and servicewomen at home & abroad.
- * All the leaders of our church, the nation and the world.



CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF

- * Dennis Stoudt.

THANKS TO:

- * Our mowers, Dennis Biehl, Ken Frankhouser and Dan DeAntonio.
- * All our volunteers who help with the Food Pantry.
- * Those who have and continue to support the Gift Card Program and those who save Redner's tapes.
- * All the leaders of our congregation, the nation and the world.
- * Phyllis Heffner and the altar guild members for their faithful work in support of our worship.
- * Our Women of the ELCA for their care and outreach to the veterans and our community.

LCHT NEWS



LOOKING FOR ANGELS

The Salvation Army Angel tree Program will again be arriving here at LCHT in November. We will keep you posted in the bulletins with more specific information as we receive it. We will have name tags to buy Christmas gifts for those in need in our local community. After selecting your name tag please locate the numbers and letters on your tag. Find those numbers on the sign up sheet & sign your name to the right of the number along with your phone numbers. This helps us to keep track of who has which names.

If for some reason you pick a name & are unable to bring a gift in, please contact Renee Lenning 610-858-2428 or Phyllis Heffner 610-926-1004.

BELOW ARE THE ANGEL TREE GIFT GIVING GUIDELINES FROM LAST YEAR. We have not yet received this years guidelines. We will give you any changes to the guidelines as we receive them. Any changes from last year will be added to the announcements in the weekly Sunday bulletin. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ANGEL TREE GIFT GIVING GUIDELINES

- The Salvation Army has selected the Angel from the neediest in our communities.
- The items your Angel needs are listed on the tag. You may buy anything listed or you may choose to substitute other age-appropriate gifts. You may purchase more than 1 gift.
- Gifts must be new – NO used clothing or toys.
- **Please do not wrap your gifts.** The Salvation Army will un-wrap all wrapped gifts to make sure that gifts are suitable. No toy guns please.
- All gifts are given anonymously. If using a gift bag for gifts, please secure/attach the Angel Tag to the inside of the bag either with tape or a staple. Please secure/attach Angel Tree card to the gift if not using a gift bag. **The date gifts need to be returned to the church will be added to the bulletin when we receive that information.**

LCHT HAS A NEW ROOF:

LCHT has a new roof!

We are having a Capital Campaign to raise \$\$ toward the needed funds.

If you would like to make a donation, please send a check and indicate on the check that the funds are for the "Capital Campaign".



HONORING OUR VETERANS



On Sunday, November 10th we will be honoring those members who so graciously served our country.

If you served in the Military please provide your name and the branch of service in which you served to the office by Monday, November 4th.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, September 24 we took part in **National Night Out** at the Reading Fairgrounds which was rescheduled from August 2nd due to weather.

The event had a wonderful turnout from the communities of Leesport, Ontelaunee, Fleetwood and Hamburg.

We interacted with close to 80 youth who participated in a bean bag toss with their choice of prize of a squishable toy or slime.

In addition, we had bookmarks for anyone to take that could be colored as well as candy, note pads and stickers.

This was a great community event to be a part of and we look forward to taking part again in 2025!



LCHT MINISTRIES

FOOD PANTRY:

Our church is the distribution site for the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry. It is a monthly distribution done on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. There is an income guideline and a registration form to fill out, giving us your name and address as well as the number of family members in your household. Also, there are brochures and information available on heating assistance, ways to conserve energy and general

concerns of limited income families. Please call 717-673-8789 for further information. Distribution continues as a drive through service. Pre packaged boxes come from Helping Harvest.

We also pack other donated items into boxes to supplement the Helping Harvest box.

Thanks to the generosity of LCHT, the food pantry has been able to remake the former Boy Scout section of the ground level into a working space for the S.V. Food Pantry. New electric outlets were installed. New freezers and a refrigerator were purchased to support the safe storage of food items until distribution date. All expenses were paid for by the Food Pantry.

The closet and other storage area previously used by the Food Pantry were emptied and made available for use by LCHT.

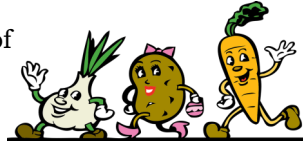
We continue to have the opportunity to pick up food items weekly from Sheetz in Leesport, and from WaWa in Hamburg. We could use one or two additional people who might be able to substitute for the pickup when the weekly volunteers are unavailable.

Distribution of food continues each month on the third Saturday of the month. Distribution is supported by individual churches, each taking two specific months of the year.

We are fortunate that schools, businesses, senior citizen groups and other organizations continue to support the pantry with collections of food items.

Helping Harvest continues to support the pantry, however we have seen changes in the items available for distribution, and sometimes in the amounts available.

The SV Food Pantry is grateful for the support of LCHT, as well as the support of all the churches in the Leesport area.



WELCA

WELCA meets the first Monday of the month at 1:00. Pastor Fran will hold a bible study. All are invited to attend. Our next two meetings are November 4 and December 2. We hope to see you there!

WELCA continues to collect REDNER REGISTER TAPES. Remember to use your "save-a-tape" card. In order for Redner's to count the receipt (a.k.a. - register tape), it has to be the **ENTIRE** receipt, and it has to have a "save-a-tape" number on it. Use your pump perks card or save-a-tape card at the checkout. Then, just drop the ENTIRE receipt in the box at the ushers station in the narthex. DO NOT CUT the bottom off.

We only get credit for COMPLETE tapes! Redner's Markets gives 1% of purchases back to the Women of the ELCA. This one percent can really add up. Your help is so appreciated. If you have any questions, please see Janet Kleffel, or call her at 610-926-2083 if you need your tapes picked up.

THANKING everyone who supports our worthwhile program in helping others through the Redner's Tape program.

Veterans Making a Difference is an ongoing project through WELCA and Pastoral Care.

There is a box in the narthex for collecting needed items for the veterans. Items will be delivered as they accumulate. Suggestions for items are as follows: Toothpaste (preferably Crest), toothbrushes, mouthwash, deodorant (preferably Old Spice), shampoo, sleep pants (L, XL, XXL), toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, liquid body soap and dish soap.



FELLOWSHIP:

Submitted by Daren DeAntonio

Many thanks to all those volunteers who helped sell and make apple

dumplings on September 27th.

We made a record

478 apple dumplings!!



Thank you to everyone who helped make and serve lunch for the Restoring Hope volunteers on September 9th!

About The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

Our Mission:

“The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is a worshipping community of faith in Christ Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit to reach out and serve all people with God’s love.”

About The Herald:

The Holy Trinity Herald is a newsletter distributed by the beginning of each month, except August. Articles can be submitted to the church office or e-mailed (preferred) to the secretary.

Deadline for article submission is the 15th of each month.

LCHT Staff Information:

Pastor: Pastor Fran Merkel is available if you find yourself in need of pastoral care. You can reach her by calling 484-793-3521

Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 2
E-mail: LCHTpastor@outlook.com

Secretary: Debra Berg
Office : 610-926-7176 ext. 1
E-mail: lchtsecretary@comcast.net
Office hrs: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:00-1:00

Sexton: Ana Calencea

Treasurer:
E-mail: lchttreasurer@comcast.net

Music Director: Virginia Lash
Home: 610-916-1316
E-mail: vlash224@comcast.net

Mailing Address:

102 Apple Street
Leesport, PA 19533

Church Fax Number:
610-926-7273

Rocking Horse Preschool Information:

Teacher: Ms. Aliesha Woods
Ms. Elisha Zimmerman
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 3
Email: rhps@comcast.net

Mailing Address:

Rocking Horse Preschool
The Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
102 Apple Street
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024



Return Service Requested

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
102 Apple St
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