



# The Herald



Inside this Issue	
Worship & Music	2
Rocking Horse Preschool	2
October calendar	3
Notes About Our Folks	4
Gift Card Program	4
WELCA	4
Sandwich Sale	4
Celebrations	5
A Note From the Choir Director	5
Volunteers	6
Pastoral Care Team	6
Food Pantry	6
Synod News	7
LCHT information	8

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

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

The oldest American World War II veteran, Lawrence Brooks, celebrated his 112<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Incidentally, Brooks is also the oldest man in the country at present. When asked, as super-centenarians often are, “What is the secret of your longevity?” he responded with these words: “Walk with God and be kind.”

Sounds simple enough, doesn’t it? And when you think about it, walking with the Lord and being kind are only just a summary of the Greatest Commandment, “Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself.” Jesus tells us that this takes in all the law and the prophets. And yet, we tend to want to be so in control of our lives that it is next to impossible to let go and let God be in charge.

Let’s take a short walk through Scripture to document those exceedingly rare instances of those who walked with the Lord. In the genealogy of the descendants of Adam in Genesis 5, all, like Lawrence Brooks, lived to exceedingly advanced ages. We read of Enoch that “he became the father of Methusaleh (who, by the way, was the longest-lived person ever at 969 years). Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him” (Gen. 5:23). What that means is that Enoch’s walk, his relationship with God, was so close that he did not die a physical death but was taken by God directly to heaven. So, too, in the case of Elijah. As he and his protégé, Elisha, were walking together, “behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven” (II Kings 3:11). And finally, for Moses the Great Lawgiver and prophet, it was said of him, “And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face” (Deuteronomy 34: 10). All these received the gift of long life as a result of their close walk and dependency upon God.

What lesson can we learn today from these stories from Scripture—that we’ll live long lives if we trust in God for all our needs? Well, certainly that’s been the case for Lawrence Brooks, but not necessarily for everyone. Look primarily at Jesus Himself. His relationship with His heavenly Father was closer than any other human being’s has ever been, so close, in fact, that not even death on the cross could separate Him from God’s love. And yet, His crucifixion took place at the relatively young age of thirty-three.

And the same goes for us. We may not live as long as Methusaleh, or even Lawrence Brooks, but if we place our trust in Christ to carry us through all the highs and lows of life, then nothing “else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39).

Your pastor and friend,  
Carl W. Filer



# WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Worship and Music Committee met in August.

Worship services for October:

- October 3 - 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Communion service
- October 10 -20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
- October 17 -21<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Communion service,
- October 24 - 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
- October 31 - Reformation Sunday

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2021 at 8:00 PM



# Worship Attendance



8/29	33
9/05	31
9/12	28
9/19	26

# ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

*Submitted by Mrs. Woods*



Welcome back to school! Things are in full swing here in the RHP classroom. Our students' first few weeks consisted of getting to know one another and learning the classroom rules and routine.

This month we also had our first visit with Miss Kelly from the Schuylkill Valley Community Library and story time with Pastor Filer.

Next month we will get to have a Halloween party and wear costumes to school. The month will also kick off with learning the letter D and Dinosaurs.

We have started our alphabet book, shape & color books and number books.

During our first few weeks we learned about apples, we even got to taste test apples and create a graph to see which kind of apples our friends liked best. Next, we learned about birds, bees and camping.



We also will be having visions screenings. This a great free service that we are happy to be able to offer to our students.



We want to thank everyone who has donated items for our classroom so far. Your help is always appreciated!

So, here's to a great start of the school year and looking forward to fun and exiting year ahead.

# OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <b>4:30-6:30PM</b> LCHT sandwich sale prep	2 <b>7:00-10:30 AM</b> Sandwich sale  <b>8:30 PM</b> AA Meeting
3 <i>19th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship/Holy Communion	4 <b>1:00 PM</b> WELCA  <b>7:00PM</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7 <b>7:30 PM</b> NA Meeting	8	9   <b>8:30 PM</b> AA Meeting
10 <i>20th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship Service	11	12	13 <b>7:00PM</b> Council Meeting	14 <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastoral Care Team meeting  <b>7:00PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> NA Meeting	15 <b>2:00 PM</b> Food Pantry Delivery  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	16 <b>9:00 AM</b> Food Pantry Distribution  <b>8:30 PM</b> AA Meeting
17 <i>21th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship/Holy Communion	18 <b>7:00PM</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21 <b>7:00PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> NA Meeting <b>8:00PM</b> Worship & Music	22	23   <b>8:30 PM</b> AA Meeting
24 <i>22nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship	25 <b>6:30 PM</b> Cemetery Board meeting  <b>7:00PM</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28 <b>7:00PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> NA Meeting	29	30   <b>8:30 PM</b> AA Meeting
31 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship						

## NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

### PRAYERS FOR:

- \* Pauline Bond at Maiden creek Place.
- \* Cynthia Leutze at her daughter's home in Mohrsville.
- \* Delores Seaman at Rittenhouse Village.
- \* Shirley Weist at Columbia Cottage.
- \* Carole Imgrund in Elizabethtown.
- \* Audrey Delong at her home in Leesport.
- \* Gordon Kistler currently in rehab.
- \* All the frontline workers fighting COVID 19 and the scientists working for a cure.
- \* All our servicemen and servicewomen at home & abroad.
- \* All the leaders of our church, the nation and the world.

### THANKS TO:

- \* Our mowers, Dennis Biehl, Ken Frankhouser and Dan DeAntonio.
- \* Ron & Judy Corl and all our other volunteers who help with the SV Food Pantry.
- \* Those who save Redner's tapes.
- \* Those who have and continue to support the Gift Card Program.
- \* All the leaders of our congregation, the nation and the world.

*Thank You!*

## Sandwich Sale

**Where: LCHT**

**When: Saturday October 2, 2021. Pick up between 7:00 AM and 10:30 AM**

**Order form is on the bulletin board.**

**Orders must be placed by September 27.**

**Sale proceeds benefit LCHT.**



## WOMEN OF THE ELCA

*Submitted by Janet Kleffel, President*

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES  
IF YOU CAN'T DROP YOUR TAPES OFF AT THE CHURCH OR JANET KLEFFEL'S HOME PLEASE  
CONTACT JANET AND SHE WILL PICK THEM UP AT YOUR HOME/PORCH.

### **REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES**

Redner's Warehouse Markets gives 1% of purchases back to the Women of the ELCA. This one percent can really add up! And the monies go to good things like the Mission Trip, VFW, Berk's Women in Crisis, just to name a few.

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! Also, please be sure to turn your tapes in in a timely manner, as Redner's will not accept any over three years old.

Your help is so appreciated. If you have any questions, please see Janet Kleffel.

**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.

Requests include personal care items, laundry detergent, large size winter coats, boxer shorts, white socks, large size flannel night pants, Crest toothpaste and Old Spice deodorant.

**We received an updated list of current needs for the veterans!**

**The list is as follows-**

**Toilet paper, Paper towels,**

**Laundry detergent, Liquid body soap, Dish soap**



## GIFT CARD PROGRAM

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.



# OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

## **Birthdays:**

01-Scott Biehl, Asher Cleary  
02-Austin Witinski  
03-Lori Johnston  
05-Scott Gruber  
06-Nathan Strause  
08-Steven Yeager  
09-Cole Angstadt, Daryl Savage  
12-Carol Sharadin  
13-Dwight Kutz  
15-Aimee Mengle  
18-Jason Reading, Abigayle Witinski

19-Jaryd Bittner, Ashley Savage,  
22-Deidre Angstadt  
Cynthia Frankhouser  
26-Damien DeAntonio  
29-Daniel Savage

## **Anniversaries:**

04-Steven & Debra Yeager  
07-Matthew & Miranda Reeser  
10-Larry & Sharon Mengle  
11-Joe & Leanna Stoudt  
12-Douglas & Chun Heister  
13-Jason & Justine Reading  
18-Dennis & Susan Biehl  
30-George & Amy Manwiller



*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](mailto:lchtsecretary@comcast.net). Thank you.*

## **A Note From the Choir Director**

Rehearsals have once again started for the musical groups of LCHT. We successfully held rehearsal through the 2020-2021 (Sept. - May) year following CDC guidelines with no one becoming ill. Unfortunately, we have begun this year with one less member in each choir. Hopefully, after January 1, they will be able to rejoin our groups.

Anyone who enjoys music is invited to join either the Bell Choir or Senior Choir (or both!). The Bell Choir rehearses Monday evenings from 7-8 P.M. and plays approximately once a month for church services plus Christmas Eve. It is not necessary to be able to read music just the ability to READ. In addition to ringing the bells, we occasionally use other percussive techniques, such as marts and mart lifts, swinging bells, plucking along with the use of mallets to create a staccato effect as well as dowel sticks to create a sound called "singing bell". On occasion hand chimes are also used in addition to, or instead of, handbells. All Current members, in addition to the director, gladly and willingly assist new members in learning the "ins and outs" of bell choir playing.

The Senior Choir rehearses Thursday evenings from 7-8 P.M. and is open to anyone from high school age to Senior Citizens. A variety of music is sung ranging from unfamiliar hymns in The Evangelical Lutheran Worship (since there are over 800 hymns to choose from) to newly purchased contemporary anthems. Anthems are chosen that are appropriate to the church calendar year. The Senior Choir sings approximately 3 Sundays a month from September to May plus Christmas Eve and any Lenten services that is held at LCHT.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who is interested in these choirs. Also, if you know of anyone whose home church is still not worshipping "in person" and misses being a part of a group, please let me know.

### **OCTOBER REHEARSAL SCHEDULE-**

Oct. 4 - Bell Choir rehearsal - 7:00  
Oct. 7 - NO CHOIR REHEARSAL  
Oct. 11 - NO BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL  
Oct. 14 - Choir rehearsal - 7:00  
Oct. 18 - Bell Choir rehearsal - 7:00  
Oct. 21 - Choir rehearsal - 7:00  
Oct. 25 - Bell Choir rehearsal - 7:00  
Oct. 28 - Choir rehearsal - 7:00



# OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

## Altar Flowers

03-*available*

10-*available*

17-*available*

24-Renee Lenning

31-*available*

## Bulletins

03- *available*

10- *available*

17- *available*

24- *available*

31- *available*

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

## Ushers

03 - Dennis Biehl, Janet Kleffel, Helen Stoudt

10 - Janet Kleffel, Linda Roshong, Vicki Fetterman

17 - Diana Biehl, Janet Kleffel, Helen Stoudt

24 - Linda Roshong, Vicki Fetterman, Dennis Biehl

31 - Linda Roshong, Helen Stoudt, Dennis Biehl

## Nursery

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

# LCHT MINISTRIES INFORMATION

## LCHT PASTORAL CARE TEAM ALIVE AND WELL DURING PANDEMIC

Your Pastoral Care Team at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity continues to function even during the restrictions and impediments of life with COVID-19. Our team of Susan Biehl, Sally Miller, Donna Kessler, Phyllis Weaver, Sue Reiber and convener, Pastor Filer, have been meeting monthly to work with individuals and families who are experiencing crises and dislocations in their lives. Extending the arm of pastoral care in the congregation, our team is receiving continuing education by reading together the book *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering* by the Rev. Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk, a Lutheran pastor and founder of Stephen Ministries which functions in a way similar to our Pastoral Care Team. Discussing a chapter a month as part of the team's agenda, our team members have grown in their ability to minister to those in need by learning how to listen actively to those who are suffering without being judgmental or offering quick and easy answers to a problem. They have sought to become more sophisticated in their approach to caring and support by looking first at themselves and their own prejudices and coping skills. That's why every meeting begins with some time for sharing members' own highs and lows and receiving constructive feedback from other members in the group.

While selection of the Pastoral Care Team is not done by means of simple voluntary recruitment, it is possible to reach out to the pastor or a team member and express one's interest and sense of giftedness for this special area of ministry. Working, then, in concert with the team's synodical oversight committee, candidates would be selected who represent a mix of gender, age, and life experiences such that a well-rounded PCT might emerge here at LCHT. Why not prayerfully ask God if the Pastoral Care Team could be a valid way for you to live out your skills as a Christian in this setting?

## 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 contact the church for further information.

Due to Covid 19, distribution continues to be 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.

**We are steadily serving an average of 80 local families every month.**

**Donations are appreciated.**



**Feeding the  
Community**



# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

OCTOBER 2021 • ISSUE 10 • VOLUME 29

## CONGREGATIONAL LEGACY & PURPOSE

BY DEACON TRAVIS WOODFIELD

I have to admit, I'm a sucker for history, especially church history. I love learning about times in the past that I'll never get to experience, in places I can only aspire to visit. I've been fortunate to go to some of those places: I've stood in churches that were 1,000 years old across Europe and marveled at the engineering, been in the cradle of the Roman Empire, lived in New York City and Philadelphia, laid down, in the rain, in the grass of monasteries from 800 years ago that is now in ruins. In all of these places, I try to imagine what it was like to be part of a community from long ago. Sometimes it's easier than others, I know something unique about a place or I know how a building was built, but the end is the same- I am in a place, remembering what I can about it, being part of its history and life.

There is a cycle to these things. Empires come and go. Leaders and rulers come and go. Institutions come and go. All of these life cycles, being born, going through a growth period, living adulthood, moving into the twilight of life, and finally, death, are all part of our lives, whether on a personal or institutional level. Part of the incredible message of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection is that death does not have the final word. However, no matter how much we try to avoid it, duck it, or deny it, death will have a word. Jesus himself understood that the only way to resurrection was through death - after all, if there's no death before resurrection, what we are really talking about is immortality, which is certainly not the Christian message.

These "deaths" can come in many forms in the church. Maybe it's moving a worship time, moving from 2 services to 1 so that the community might be one and ministry might be effective. It may be struggling with how to do "virtual" church in the time of a pandemic. Maybe it's letting a go special ministry that the church can no longer support with financial or labor. Maybe it's giving up a building to move to a building that fits the congregation. Maybe it's merging or closing.

The truth is that none of these realities, these deaths, are easy to imagine or even embrace. There is real grief, fear, anxiety, anger, and sadness that comes with even thinking about them. It's also true that we are not alone in these decisions. We do not know what resurrection may look like, but we know that it is Christ's promise. History always seems short when we are the ones participating in it. Christ sees the long view and, I think, wondering how we can participate in trying to see that long view is part of our call as a Christian. We cannot see the end but we can think and pray about what next, faithful steps may be. As a church, we have to start thinking about what those faithful steps might be, both as individuals, as a church, and as a synod.

# 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.”*

Everyone is welcome at LCHT. If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Pastor Filer.

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## LCHT Sundays’ Schedule:

Worship at 9 a.m.

## LCHT Staff Information:

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Carl W. Filer  
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 2  
Home: 610-223-7318  
E-mail: LCHTpastor@outlook.com

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

**Sexton:** Ana Calencea

**Treasurer:** Pat Miller  
E-mail: lchttreasurer@comcast.net

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

**Website:** www.lcht.org

**Mailing Address:**  
102 Apple Street  
Leesport, PA 19533

**Church Fax Number:**  
610-926-7273

## Rocking Horse Preschool Information:

**Teachers:** Mrs. Aliesha Woods  
Mrs. Kimberly Wentzel  
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

# OCTOBER 2021



*Return Service Requested*

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity  
102 Apple St  
Leesport, PA 19533