



The Herald



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

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VOLUME 30 | ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2022

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



Merry Christmas

Dear Friends and Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Creator and from Jesus Christ! On behalf of the Northeastern PA Synod Staff and Bishop Christopher deForest we wish you the merriest Christmas and a blessed and fruitful new year!

This year the NEPA Synod accomplished a cornucopia of ministry in all corners of the NEPA territory. Your love for God in Christ fed the hungry, built relationships with the downtrodden and outcast, diapered babies, shared the love of God in Christ, and much more...

Christmas reminds us of the length God goes to build relationships with us. God comes all the way down to a dirty stable in Bethlehem... an unexpected, messy beginning for the Messiah. Jesus is exactly the Messiah we needed without understanding why we needed him.

Christmas is an opportunity to reflect on the ways God comes to us unexpectedly -- It's an opportunity to meditate on the reality that Christ comes to us as an infant, totally reliant on his parents... Christ comes in the most usual way, and yet he's the one foretold in the prophets of old, he saves the people from sin and death, and he keeps coming to us. Jesus comes to us in bread and wine, in baptism, through prayer and thanksgiving, and when we gather together around God's Word.

Continue to be the Body of Christ in the world. Keep serving, preaching, proclaiming, worshipping, and sharing the good news of what God has done for us!

Yours in Christ,
NEPA Synod Staff



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 11, 2021
will be held at the conclusion of
9 a.m. Worship Service



WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Submitted by Nettie Kauffman

Worship Services for November 27 & December, 2022:

- November 27 First Sunday of Advent. Regular service. Bell choir will play. The Advent wreath will be in place. Members will participate with a Litany of readings and lighting the candles each week. *Rev. David Rowe to supply.*
- December 04 Second Sunday of Advent, Holy Communion Service. *Rev. Scott Davis to supply.*
- December 11 Third Sunday of Advent. *Rev. Fran Merkel will supply. **Annual congregational meeting following worship service.***
- December 18 Forth Sunday of Advent, Holy Communion service. *Rev. David Rowe will supply.*
- December 24 *Christmas Eve services: Holy Communion Service. The Rev. Richard Bardo. 7:45 PM--Bell Choir recital- prelude to Christmas Eve Service. 8:00 PM--Traditional candlelight service with communion. Choir anthem.*
- December 25 No service. An invitation has been extended to worship with St. Gernant's church this day.

Worship Attendance



10/30	40
11/06	28
11/13	27
11/20	29
11/27	32

Other Notes :



- * Sanctuary will be decorated for the Christmas season on December 3rd at 9:00 AM. Volunteers are needed for this joyful task!
- * See page 7 of this newsletter for the poinsettia order form. Order forms can also be found with your November 27 bulletin and on the small table outside of the office. Contact Phyllis Heffner at 610-926-1004 or 484-769-0886 with questions or to place an order.
- * Worship & Music will meet on December 1, 2022 at 8:00PM.

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

PRAYERS:

- * Pauline Bond, at Maiden creek Place.
- * Shirley Weist, at Columbia Cottage.
- * Cynthia Leutze, at the Masonic Home in Elizabethtown.
- * Carole Imgrund at the Masonic Home in Elizabethtown.
- * Audrey Delong at her home in Leesport.
- * Richard Reiber at Berkshire Commons.
- * All of our servicemen and servicewomen, especially those who must spend the holidays away from family and friends.
- * All the leaders of our congregation, the nation and the world.



DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

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 Greely
- 31-June Gilmer

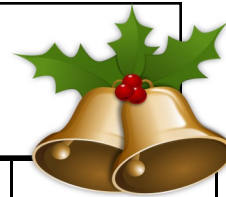
Anniversaries

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

* THANKS TO:

- * 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 of our nation's military.
- * All the volunteers who help with the food pantry.

December 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
				1 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg 8:00 Worship & Music	2 3:00-6:00 PM Sandwich prep- Karen Bausch	3 7-11:00AM Sandwich sale 9:00 AM Decorating of the Church for Christmas 8:30 PM AA Meeting
4 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/ Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Scott Davis</i>	5 1:00 PM WELCA 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	6	7	8 9:30 AM Pastoral Care Team meeting 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg	9	10 8:30 PM AA Meeting
11 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship <i>The Rev. Fran Merkel</i> Annual congregational meeting following Worship Deadline for Poinsettia orders.	12 9AM-3PM RHPS in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	13 9AM-3PM RHPS in Fellowship Hall	14 7:00 PM Council Meeting	15 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg	16 2:00 PM Food Pantry Delivery	17 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 PM AA Meeting
18 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/ Holy Communion <i>The Rev. David Rowe</i>	19 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	20	21	22 9AM-3PM RHPS in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Mtg	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 7:45 PM Bell Choir recital 8:00 PM Candlelight Worship/Holy Communion <i>The Rev. Richard Bardo</i> 8:30 PM AA Meeting
25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Service at St. Gernant's Church 	26	27	28	29 7:30 PM NA Mtg	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 8:30 PM AA Meeting

➡ For up to date calendar information, visit our website, www.lcht.org and click on the on Calendar tab ⬅

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Altar Flowers

04--Janice Care
 11--Nettie & Irvin Kauffman
 18--Donald Kauffman
 24--no flowers--Poinsettias

Bulletins

04--Janice Care
 11--available
 18--Vicki Fetterman
 24--Kenny & Jean Stoudt

Nursery

no attendant but room will be open

Ushers

04--Vicki Fetterman
 11--Diana Biehl
 18--Darlene Savage
 24--Dan DeAntonio



VETERANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

project through WELCA and Pastoral Care continues.



Thank you to everyone who donated throughout the year.

Suggested items for donation are:

White socks
 shaving cream
 boxer shorts
 toothpaste
 toothbrushes
 mouthwash
 deodorant
 shampoo
 sleep pants (size L,XL & XXL)
 toilet paper
 paper towels
 laundry detergent
 liquid body soap
 dish soap

Please place your donated items in the large box in the vestibule.

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.



LCHT MINISTRIES INFORMATION



Feeding the Community

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.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

SUBMITTED BY ALIESHA WOODS



November has flown by, and the Christmas holiday is right around the corner!

Our Thanksgiving Feast was a great time! We played games, did crafts, and had a

feast of chicken nuggets and smile fries! It's always nice to get to celebrate with our families. So, as you can maybe tell, our classroom has been a busy place the last few weeks and will continue to be busy with holiday happenings during the month of December.

During the month of December, we will be learning all about Christmas as we make Santa's, reindeer,

Christmas lights, wreaths, gingerbread and a special Christmas ornament.

We will also be learning about the letters, K, L, and M. The colors pink and gray and numbers 10-12.



We also will be having our annual Santa Shoppe where students get to "shop" for gifts for their loved ones. This always such a fun time that the kiddos look forward to.



We will be hosting our Cookies and Cocoa day with our families on Thursday December 22nd. Families get to decorate cookies and "Christmas trees" as well as do some crafts, play games, and enjoy a

snack together.



WishList:

Small Paper Plates (not glossy)
Glue Sticks

LCHT NEWS

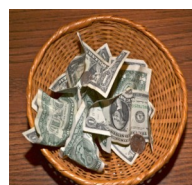
Volunteers needed



What better way to get in the Christmas spirit than to join us on Saturday, December 3rd @ 9 am to help decorate the church for the holidays!

Year End Contributions

Please make sure that any year-end financial contributions reach the church by Monday, December 26, 2022.



Sandwich Sale

The next sandwich sale will be held at LCHT Saturday, December 3, 2022. Sandwiches will be ready for pick-up by 8:45 AM. Please see form on the bulletin board to place your order by November 28, 2022. Sale proceeds will benefit The Relay for Life.



Pot Pie Sale

Saturday January 7, 2023.
Inclement weather date is Saturday January 14.

Available for take out only.

Pot Pie (quart) \$10.00
Pepper Cabbage (pint) \$5.00
Assorted Baked Goods



LCHT Budget 2022		Actual - Last 12 months	Budget 2023- Proposed
Income			
Envelopes	100,000.00	109,449.00	85,588.00
Plate	3,380.00	2,311.39	1,300.00
Rocking Horse	48,455.00	47,431.00	49,950.00
Other Misc Income			
Bulletins	780.00	455.00	780.00
Facility Usage	3,500.00	4,100.00	1,200.00
Flowers	1,250.00	1,230.00	1,250.00
Miscellaneous Income	120.00	2,006.74	120.00
Rohrbach Trust	6,284.00	5,396.03	5,100.00
Thrivent Choice	1,500.00	1,306.00	1,000.00
Total Other Misc Income	13,434.00	14,493.77	9,450.00
Total Income	165,269.00	173,685.16	146,288.00
Expense			
CARE OF PROPERTY			
Insurance	4,748.00	4,872.25	5,164.00
JanitorialSupplles	900.00	648.97	900.00
Repairs/Maintenance			
Mowing Grass	5,740.00	1,581.09	1,730.00
Snow Removal		1,315.00	1,000.00
Annual Inspections	500.00	1,168.50	900.00
Repairs/Maintenance - Other	1,550.00	2,072.21	2,400.00
Total Repairs/Maintenance	7,790.00	6,136.80	6,030.00
Utilities			
Electric	7,000.00	8,885.91	9,420.00
Gas	3,972.00	4,348.37	5,040.00
Sewer	560.00	531.40	560.00
Telephone	4,812.00	5,298.75	5,580.00
Trash Removal	924.00	942.00	1200.00
Water	500.00	539.00	540.00
Total Utilities	17,768.00	20,545.43	22,340.00
Total CARE OF PROPERTY	31,206.00	32,203.45	34,434.00
CARE/SUPPORT-STAFF			
Music Director	12,947.00	12,947.04	12,947.00
Pastor - Life /Disability Insur	990.00	825.00	990.00
Pastor - Retirement	5,400.00	4,500.00	5,400.00
Pastor - Salary & House Allownc	45,000.00	37,500.00	22,500.00
Pastor - Self Employment Tax	3,442.50	2,725.29	1,721.25
RHP - Director	17,736.60	18,919.12	19,155.84
RHP Aide	14,000.00	13,700.66	14,000.00
Secretary	8,000.00	7,676.48	7,831.44
Sexton	6,272.00	6,271.92	6,400.00
Payroll Taxes	6,403.48	5,613.41	7,241.42
Organist - Supply	750.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Supply Pastors	2,000.00	1,958.40	4,485.00
Pastor - Auto Mileage	550.00	951.26	550.00
Pastor - Continuing Education	500.00	305.00	500.00
Pastor - Professional Expense	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Workman's Compensation Ins	2,000.00	-100.76	1,872.00
Total CARE/SUPPORT-STAFF	126,991.58	114,792.82	107,593.95

	Budget 2022	Actual - Last 12 months	Budget 2023- Proposed
CHURCH COMMITTEES			
Christian Youth Committee	500.00	109.36	500.00
Fellowship	100.00		100.00
Finance	100.00		100.00
Social Ministry Committee	250.00	0.00	250.00
Stewardship/Evangelism	750.00		750.00
Worship & Music Committee	1,525.00	596.38	1,525.00
Total CHURCH COMMITTEES	3,225.00	705.74	3,225.00
NURTURE/CARECONGRTN			
Benevolence to Synod	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00
Church-wide Support Meetings	400.00	297.00	400.00
Copier Lease	1,850.00	1,472.04	1,134.00
Flowers Expense	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	120.00	29.51	120.00
Offering Envelope Expense	700.00	531.02	588.00
Office Expenses	1,500.00	1,645.19	1,700.00
Pastoral Care Team	350.00	0.00	100.00
Payroll Expenses	1,800.00	1,375.30	1,800.00
Postage	120.00	176.00	186.00
Total NURTURE/CARE CONGRTN	14,090.00	12,776.06	10,278.00
ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL			
RHP Classroom supplies	2,600.00	1,596.53	2,600.00
RHP Copier Lease	1,440.00	1,472.04	1,134.00
RHP Background checks	50.00	33.00	50.00
RHPPOSTAGE	55.00	0.00	55.00
RHP SPECIAL EVENTS	600.00	924.48	600.00
RHP Substitute Teacher Expenses	600.00	30.00	840.00
Total ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL	5,345.00	4,056.05	5,279.00
Total Expense	180,857.58	164,534.12	160,809.95
Net Ordinary Income	-15,588.58	9,151.04	-14,521.95

Poinsettias

Deadline is: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

6½" pot in Red or White

Number of Plants Total Cost

Red _____ X \$6.00 = _____

White _____ X \$6.00 = _____

Total Number of Plants:

Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

Name:

Please return form to: Phyllis Heffner
Order forms will also be available in the
November 27 bulletin and on the table outside
the office thereafter.



Fill out **EXACTLY** as you want it listed in the
bulletin insert. Please **PRINT** all information.

Use additional form if needed.

Plants Given to the Glory of God

By: _____

By: _____

Plants Given in Memory

Of: _____

By: _____

Of: _____

By: _____

Plants Given in Honor

Of: _____

By: _____

Of: _____

By: _____

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 Sundays' Schedule:

Worship at 9 a.m.

LCHT Staff Information:

Pastor:

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 9 to 1.

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 St.
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

Church Fax Number:

610-926-7273

Rocking Horse Preschool Information:

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

Mailing Address:

Rocking Horse Preschool
102 Apple St.
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

December 2022



Return Service Requested

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