



*"Love does
no wrong to
a neighbor; therefore,
love is the fulfilling
of the law,"* Romans 13:10, SNBV

Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 21

8:30 am Confirmation Class
9:30 am Worship w/communion
9:30 am Sunday School

Monday, May 22

6:15 pm Life Long Faith Formation
7:00 pm Property Committee

Tuesday, May 23

6:30 pm Girl Scouts
7:00 pm WELCA

Wednesday, May 24

7:00 pm Bible Study

Thursday, May 25

6:30 pm Preschool Graduation
7:30 pm NA

Friday, May 26

Saturday, May 27



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Companion Synod Sunday Sunday, May 21, 2023

Liberia

The Lutheran Church in Liberia was founded April 28, 1860.

The Upper Susquehanna Synod is the only ELCA synod that is partnered with the Lutheran Church of Liberia (LCL).

First Lutheran Missionary to Liberia was Rev. Morris Officer.

Messiah Sponsored Kirsten Marie Jensen as Missionary to Liberia for many years.

During the Civil War (1990-2003) and years after, the USS sent over 25 containers of medical and school supplies for use in LCL churches.

Our involvement turned to work teams helping to rebuild areas destroyed by the Civil War and offering empowerment programs for women to learn a skill in order to help provide for their families and the communities in which they lived.

Most recently Hand in Hand tours were offered to help USS participants to see the history of faith in Liberia and accompany the mission and ministry of the LCL.

This year, Bishop Craig Miller and Pastor Karen Ward went to Liberia in April for an international conference sponsored by the ELCA. More information will be shared at Synod Assembly this year. Gifts were offered and an agreement was signed showing mutual support as companion synods.

Kirchenkreis Ansbach-Wuerzburg

December 1996 our partnership with Kirchenkreis Ansbach-Wuerzburg (AWK) was formalized when the ELCA approached USS for a second companion synod. However, our roots go much further back as many of our congregations and its members came from Germany.

In 2001 the first official Partnership Agreement was signed by then Bishop Bezzel and Bishop A. Donald Main at the Bishop's Retreat in Wellsboro. The agreement was renewed in 2006 at the Hesselberg Bavarian Kirchentag.

In the past there have been youth and choir exchanges and the exchange of deans. There have been AWK camp counselors at Mount Luther and seminarians from Augstana-Hochschule at Neuendettelsau.

The covenant agreement of mutual support was signed last year at our assembly and sent to Kirchenkreis Ansbach-Wuerzburg. We have received their signature copy and it is on file at the synod office. This year, our German brothers and sisters continue to work in resettling thousands of refugees from Ukraine.

Check out our Global Mission page on the Upper Susquehanna Website under the "unity" tab.

For more information, check out the May 2023, USS Ark article "Focus on Our Companion Synod".

May 14, 2023

Service Assistants	9:30
Ushers	Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Bill Reasner, Sally Congdon, Mike Gardner
Lay Assistant	Georgette Copp
Communion Assistant	Mandy Feinberg
Altar Guild	Vicki Bair, Doris Butt
Greeters/Communion Presenters	Paul Weaver, Jean Weaver
Acolyte/Crucifer	Karrah Bair
Cantor	Aidan Connor
Flower Delivery	Charles Luppert

Sunday, May 7, 2023 Attendance: **106**; Offering: **\$3343.00**; Capital Campaign: **\$20.00**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lee Waltz by his family.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in honor of Carol Hessert's 80th birthday, May 21, by her daughter Pam.

Bible Readings

Sunday, May 21 Acts 1:6-14; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Monday, May 22 Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6

Tuesday, May 23 Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Wednesday, May 24 Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36

Thursday, May 25 Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11

Friday, May 26 Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17

Saturday, May 27 Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours' office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.



Food Pantry: *Items most needed this week* are mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, rice, jelly. Granola bars and crackers. Please note: NO spaghetti or other shapes of pasta, please, and NO applesauce - We currently have an overabundance of these.

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out this Sunday.

Wednesday, May 24th will be our last bible study for the season. We look forward to starting classes in the fall.



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Touch-and-feel Creation** - This beautiful touch and feel board book teaches children about colors and textures and variety in the created world, and about the God who made them. This book is in the board book section of the library.

Adult - **Salt Lake Dreams** - Three women, pioneers in their chosen professions, find that life in nineteenth century Utah is filled with romance and fraught with danger, intrigue, and mystery. Archaeologist Tabitha enters a contest to be the first to find a dinosaur fossil in Utah. Resort owner Ellie is furious when she discovers her late grandfather spent his life savings to purchase a carousel for their Salt Lake resort. Doctor Abigail endures many dangers on her way to Utah--only to discover once she arrives that everyone is not who they appear. Can these women make their homes and find love in Utah, despite the dangers hounding them? Book in the Adult Fiction section of the library.

Attention Sew-ers! This year's Vacation Bible School date has been set for June 12-16. It's now crunch time to get as many backpacks sewn that we can, so the older VBS kids can string them. We know you've been working hard on bags because the pile over in the office is growing. Won't you please consider taking even more material from the office/Narthex to make the pile even higher? Last year the VBS kids had the bags strung in 3 1/2 days. Each day they challenged themselves to string more bags than the previous day; they were disappointed when we ran out. **If you haven't tried** making the bags and would like to give it a shot, call Sally at 570-547-6193, and she will coach you! They are very easy! So... let's put the "pedal (sewing pedal, that is) to the metal" and try to beat last year's total of 219 bags!

Shepherd of the Streets is in need of the following **adult hygiene items**: combs, shampoo, conditioner, large bars of soap, and deodorant. **Children's and infants' hygiene items needed include**: children's toothbrushes, combs, hair ties, baby shampoo, baby lotion, baby soap, and baby powder. Donated items may be placed in the gray bin in the elevator alcove or brought to the church office during normal business hours. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry to our community!

Y O U N G
A D U L T
F E L L O
W S H I P

Young Adult Fellowship: Are you a young adult finding yourself in need of connecting spiritually with your peers? Camp Mount Luther's Young Adult Fellowship meets via Zoom on the last Wednesday of every month. This month's meeting will be May 31 at 8:00 p.m. If you consider yourself a young adult, you can join us! Questions or want the link? Email jim@campmountluther.org.



To our Messiah Family,
Thank you very much for all the cards, prayers and visits for Holly over the last few months. They are very much appreciated. Holly is continuing to get her strength back.

Much Appreciation, George and Holly McKay

Vacation Bible School, STELLAR, Shine Jesus' Light – June 12-16! Registration forms are now available; you can get one off the Bald Eagle entrance bulletin board or in the church office. We are still looking for volunteers, both adults and youth. If you are interested please contact Kathryn Pratt, 570-244-6964 or the church office 570-326-9171.

On Sunday, May 21st, the Ville Harmonic Ensemble from Montoursville Area High School will be joining us to provide wonderful music for our service. The Ville Harmonic Ensemble is a sixteen person auditioned acapella group that typically sings music that is in eight parts (SSAATTBB). The group is extremely talented and is very excited to share their gift of music with our congregation.



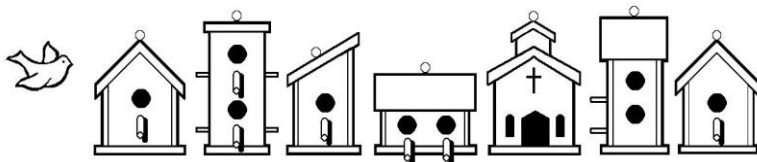
Enrollment for Camp Mt. Luther is still open. Families will need to pay the initial registration fee(s) and the church will pay the remaining cost of the camp. ***The Registration fee(s) will be reimbursed following camp attendance.*** If there are financial concerns with the Registration fee(s) please contact the church office.



What's new at Camp Mount Luther? Exciting things are happening! For starters, their logo! After 22 years with the old logo, it was time for a change. The new logo comes as they prepare to kick off their new capital campaign (more on that later!) Visit <https://www.campmountluther.org/news/> to stay current on all of the Camp Mount Luther news or subscribe to the Camel Tracks newsletter.



The Valiant Woman Award is presented by local chapters of Church Women United in "recognition of a woman who has given longtime service to CWU, her own church, and her community...and who lives the Gospel message in her own life". This year, Church Women United of Lycoming County, honored Mrs. Carol Waltz for her many years of dedicated service and her faithful commitment to her community. Congratulations, Carol, this is a well-deserved award for you. Thanks for all you do!



The Mother's Day Dinner was a great time for all in attendance. There were 85+ in attendance this year. We had great entertainment from Lucy Henry, who played for us her Hammered Dulcimer, mountain Dulcimer, flute and sang a few songs that were accompanied by Carol Waltz. Such great talent. Below you will see I tried to get as many pictures on as I could to share with you the wonderful evening of fellowship with all the mother's, daughters, granddaughters, aunts and friends. Thank you to all who took part in helping in many different ways for the evening and a special thank you to Dave Bausinger and the kitchen crew for a wonderful meal.

