



Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 14

Holy Cross Sunday

9:30 am Worship/Communion

1:00 pm Alexa Stuart Baby Shower

Monday, September 15

6:30 pm Executive Committee

Tuesday, September 16

5:30 pm WELCA Picnic

Wednesday, September 17

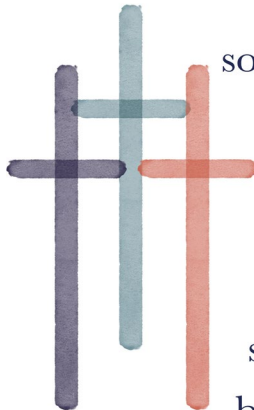
Thursday, September 18

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm NA

Friday, September 19

Saturday, September 20



For *God*
so loved the world,
that he gave
his only son,
that whoever
believes in *him*
should not perish
but have *eternal life*.

John 3:16

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Holy Cross Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 14th is set aside in our lectionary for the observance of Holy Cross Sunday, where we celebrate the meaning of the Holy Cross in our faith and in how we live our lives.

We place crosses in our homes, in our cars, and even on our bodies as jewelry or tattoos! We do this for various reasons, but mostly to identify ourselves as Christians. I invite all our congregation to bring an object that depicts the Holy Cross with them to worship on Sunday, 9/14, one which holds meaning for you and for your family, whose meaning you would like to share with the rest of the congregation.

There will be a table in the front of the church, where everyone will be invited to place their cross. When you arrive for church, simply walk to the front of the sanctuary, write your family's name on an index card (cards and a sharpie will be provided for you) and place your cross either on the card or next to it.

The congregation will then be able to view and enjoy all the crosses as you come forward for Holy Communion. Thank you for your participation!

– Janet Stroble, ALWL

September 14, 2025

Service Assistants

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair. Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee; **Lay Assistant:** Anita Bair; **Communion Assistant:** Fred Harbaugh; **Acolyte:** An Usher; **Altar Guild:** Sue Shoemaker, Yvonne Kaiser; **Greeters/Presenters:** Yvonne Kaiser, Rhonda Koch
Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser; **Flower Delivery:** Paul Weaver

Sunday, September 7, 2025: Attendance: *In Church: 94; Online: 3*; Offering: **\$6,912.38**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of James D. Wither III (Jamie) by his daughter and son-in-law, Vanessa and Brett Holfelder and grandchildren, Ali Rudinski and Gordie Emick III.

The Bud Vase is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of James D. Wither III (Jamie) on the anniversary of his birth into heaven, September 20, 2014, by his wife, Kathy; son Sean Wither; and grandson Jackson Summers.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, September 14: *Numbers 21:4b-9; 1Corinthians 1:18-24; John 3:3-17*

Monday, September 15: *Psalm 73; Amos 7:1-6; 1 Timothy 1:18-20*

Tuesday, September 16: *Psalm 73; Jonah 3:1-10; 2 Peter 3:8-13*

Wednesday, September 17: *Psalm 73; Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6; Luke 22:31-33, 54-62*

Thursday, September 18: *Psalm 113; Exodus 23:1-9; Romans 3:1-8*

Friday, September 19: *Psalm 113; Ezekiel 22:17-31; Romans 8:31-39*

Saturday, September 20: *Psalm 113; Isaiah 5:8-23; Mark 12:41-44*



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, September 14th, will be Janet Stroble, ALWL.

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

Reminder: *Articles for the Messenger and Bulletin are due in the office by Monday at noon.*



Dear Messiah,

On behalf of the Jeanie Laurrell family, thank you for the beautiful flowers provided to our mother during her stay at Ravine Ridge. The flowers provided a burst of color during her stay. We are so grateful for mom's church family.

Warmly,

Stacey, Jennifer and April

The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children/Youth - **The Real Story of The Flood** - One vessel large enough for a pair of every kind of animal in creation. One faithful man and his family. One global catastrophe, and one God capable of creating, destroying, and ultimately, saving our world and everything in it. In this book, scholar and author Paul L. Maier explains the Great Flood in a unique way. No myth or romanticized version, here is the true story of mankind's second chance and our loving God's promise to preserve us for all time. This book is in the children's section of the library.

Adult - **The Gift to Listen - The Courage to Hear** - This book interweaves listening techniques with spiritual principles that emphasize the importance of listening and provide a framework for more effective listening. Using real-life anecdotes drawn from her experience as a minister, counselor, and organization development consultant, Cari Jackson explores common causes of communication breakdowns and offers strategies for moving toward communication breakthroughs. This practical and inspiring book will deepen the rewards of human relationships in business, love and family life. The book is found in the topical issues section of our library.

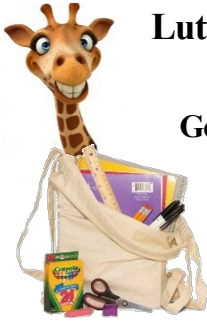


Knitters for Neighbors is completing our 20th year of crafting and contributing items to many area organizations, hoping that we've realized our goal of warming heads, hands, paws, and hearts. We all agreed that we have reached our "all good things must come to an end" point. In this, our final year, we will donate 75 pair of mittens to Head Start, 29 chemo caps to UPMC Cancer Center, 17 dish cloths to Divine Providence Gift Shop, 15 watch caps to our Seafarer's Christmas project, 12 cat mats to the SPCA, and 47 baby hats to UPMC Newborn Nursery.



The fellowship committee would like to thank everyone who came to the annual picnic in Shaheen hall on Sunday. We acknowledged all of our wonderful amazing volunteers and Pam presented a 5-minute slide show which included photos of volunteers throughout the years demonstrating their services. Thank you again to all of our volunteers, we couldn't do it without you

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out Sunday, September 21st. Please let the office know if you are not available to take communion. If anyone is homebound, can't get to church and would like to receive Communion please notify the church office at 570-326-9171.

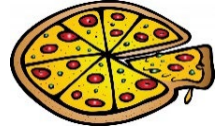


Lutheran World Relief School Kits ~ Pack-a-Sack Event! Saturday, September 27, 5:00 p.m.

God's Work. Our Hands. The Spirit called ... and wow! Did you answer!
We have collected enough supplies to complete close to 800 kits this year!

Now the real fun begins ... ***and we need you!***

Please join us for a Pizza Supper followed by a work session to fill the backpacks with the supplies. *With so many bags to fill, much help is needed!* Please sign up



in the narthex so that we know how many stations to set up and how much pizza to order.

There are jobs for every ability. Questions? Call or text Kathy at 570-651-2802.

We cannot say it enough ... thank you all so very, very much for answering the call! 😊



MLP Gift Card Bingo is Saturday, October 25 at 11:30 am. Presale tickets are \$20 and at the door \$25. Tickets will be available, before and after each service in the Narthex on these dates:

Sunday, September 21st and 28th or anytime in the church office. To make this event a success we are asking the congregation for your support. Ways you can

help: donate a gift card of your choice for our Gift Card Bingo; make a themed basket to donate for our Chinese Auction; or make baked goods to sell during the event. Deadline for gift cards and themed baskets is **October 17th**. Baked good items are due **Friday, October 24th by NOON** in the church office. **PLEASE DROP OFF ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.**



Bible Study and fellowship will begin on Wednesday, September 24th at 6:30 pm. *All are welcome!*



Volunteers are needed. All of our committees are in need of members. The primary goal of a committee is to support the mission and goals of the church through their specific area of work. Committee members attend meetings usually once a month or every other month; they contribute to discussions and decisions, and collaborate to carry out tasks related to the committee's focus area. Please consider joining one or more. Here is a list of the chairpersons of each committee,

please reach out to them or to the church office to get more information and to see when the committee meets:

- ❖ **Worship and Music Committee** – Jody Fullmer
- ❖ **Fellowship Committee** – Alice Morrison and Georgette Copp
- ❖ **Life Long Faith Formation** (Christian Ed/Youth) – Kathryn Pratt
- ❖ **Property** – Dave Bausinger
- ❖ **Missional Outreach** – Carol Winter
- ❖ **Support and Finance** – Craig Kropp
- ❖ **Preschool Committee** – Mary Schultz
- ❖ **WELCA** – Ruth Doran



WELCA - Tuesday, September 16 at 5:30 p.m. – Patio Picnic at Ruth Doran's home. Table Service, meats and beverages will be provided. Please bring food to share. **Spouses are welcome!** Bob Schweppenheiser has been invited to come and play for us as he did last year.



WELCA will sponsor a **COFFEE HOUR** for the congregation on Sunday, September 21, in Shaheen Hall, along with distribution of "Program Booklets for 2025-2026".



Mark your calendar for **"TRIVIA NIGHT"** on Saturday, **October 11th**. We will have some new faces. George Jansson will be our quiz master for the evening. Pizza and beverages will be supplied. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. The fees are ... \$8.00 per person; \$15.00 per couple. The beneficiary is Messiah's Backpack Project.



Did you know ... that Messiah accepts clothing donations year-round for Daniel's Closet? Daniel's Closet is a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church on Washington Boulevard to provide free clothing to anyone who has a need. Clothing and accessories (belts, shoes, ties, gloves, purses, bags, etc.) may be placed in the large blue bin inside the alley entrance at Messiah on Sunday mornings or whenever the church is open for other functions.

Please bag all clothing in kitchen size trash bags or smaller so that our volunteers can handle them ... clothing is heavy! ***All are welcome to "shop" the closet, too! Please take only what you can use personally or share with a friend. The next closet will be open Saturday, September 27, 8:30-11 a.m. All are welcome!***




520 West 4th Street
Williamsport (Second Floor)

WE'RE MOVING!

Volunteers are needed for...

Moving the Food Pantry- Monday August 25th @ 8 AM

For Questions contact Scott Kriger: (570) 220-2618

Moving the Shepherd of the Streets- Thursday August 28th @ 11 AM

For Questions contact Pastor Mark: (570) 917-9660

