

THE MESSENGER

Volume CLVI

"To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"

Issue No. 369

IN THIS ISSUE...

A Note from the Pastor

Worship with Us!

Memorial Day Geraniums Sponsor Form

Grace Notes

Youth News

It's Time for Vacation Bible School!!

Church Council Minutes

Wedding Anniversary Sunday RSVP

Stewards of God's Love

In Our Community



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday, May 7th

Heavenly Father,

We come to You in the Name that is above every name—Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Our hearts cry out to You.

Knowing that You are a prayer-answering, faithful God—the One we trust in times like these—we ask that You renew our spirits, revive our churches, and heal our land.

We repent of our sins and ask for Your grace and power to save us. Hear our cry, oh God, and pour out Your Spirit upon us that we may walk in obedience to Your Word.

We are desperate for Your tender mercies. We are broken and humbled before You.

Forgive us, and in the power of Your great love, lift us up to live in Your righteousness.

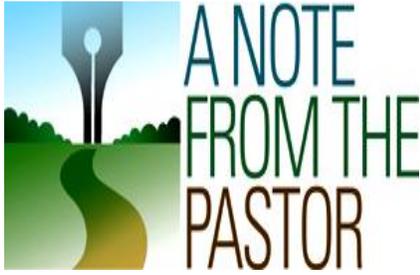
We pray for our beloved nation. May we repent and return to You and be a light to the nations. And we pray for our leaders and ask that You give them wisdom and faith to follow You.

Preserve and protect us, for You are our refuge and only hope.

Deliver us from all fears except to fear You, and may we courageously stand in the Truth that sets us free.

We pray with expectant faith and grateful hearts.

In Jesus' name, our Savior. Amen.— 2015 National Prayer by Dr. Jack Graham



Dahlberg and Dahlgren are both Swedish names. John A. B. Dahlgren was born in Philadelphia, November 13, 1809. In April 1832 he successfully passed the midshipman exam and rose to the rank of Lieutenant. But even though President Abraham Lincoln had confidence in him John A.B. Dahlgren could not completely fulfill his assignment of blockading the port of Charlestown, S.C. during the Civil War. Being more successful as a scientist than a line officer John A.B. Dahlgren became a prolific expert on ordinance. Ordinance, that is explosives. Dahlgren rose to the rank of rear admiral and is remembered for designing the finest boat guns in the world for the U.S. Navy.

Edwin T. Dahlberg was a celebrated Baptist minister in St. Louis, Missouri. Dahlberg said that he had an older brother who had the same name as he – a brother who had died in infancy. He had said that when the baby died, his mother, was inconsolable in her grief until she learned she was going to have another child. Therefore, when he was born they gave him the same name as the child who had not survived. He said that all of his life he heard about Edwin who lived and Edwin who died. He said many times he stood in the cemetery and looked at the tombstone with his name on it – Edwin T. Dahlberg. He said, “I never stood there without feeling (once definitely confirmed to me by my mother) that if he had not died, I would never have lived.

We all have such an elder brother. We wear his name. We live in the certain knowledge that if He had not died, we could never have really lived.

Pastor David B. Schaeffer



Creator God, for all the ways you bring forth new life and nurture it in love, we praise you. Each new day to praise your name is a glorious gift. Jesus, we thank you for your gift of the Spirit of Truth to be with us always. May the Spirit guide our worship and our lives. Amen.

May 2--3 Fifth Sunday of Easter / Holy Communion at all services

May 11--12 Sixth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day

May 17--18 Ascension Sunday / Holy Communion at all services

Church Music Sunday on Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

May 24--25 Pentecost Sunday / Holy Communion at 8:00 am/ Confirmation at 10:45

Memorial Day Geraniums

May 30--31 Holy Trinity Sunday



"Over my head, I hear music in the air. There must be a God somewhere."

These optimistic and hopeful words from an African-American spiritual express the strong religious convictions held by the American slaves. Although they struggled under bondage, lived a life of fear and disrespect, and endured violence and economic deprivation, the slaves were nevertheless able to discover and embrace a strong faith in God.

Often turning to music to articulate their hopes for a better world to come, the slaves sang spirituals—simple, unaccompanied songs that were passed down to the generations through an oral tradition. These songs imparted Christian values and served as an outlet to direct their minds away from the drudgery and hardships they suffered. In order to survive, they had to look up, over their head, and get a different perspective. They had to tune their heart to hear "music in the air." Through their singing, the slaves were able to focus on the heavenly and the divine and looked forward to a better life to come.

This post-Easter season, we, too, cast our sights upward toward heaven. Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus bodily ascends into heaven. This day, always on a Thursday, concludes the earthly ministry of Jesus and is the culminating point of the resurrection event. The crucified and risen Christ has now assumed his rightful power, glory, and divinity with God in heaven. God has exalted Jesus to the highest position in the universe, in charge of all that exists and happens. Through his ascension Jesus reveals that death has been defeated for good and eternal life is possible.

Jesus entered heaven as a forerunner for us, and we know that someday we will all be joining him at the heavenly banquet. *In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?* (John 14:2)

Although the official date of Ascension is Thursday, May 14, we will be observing it at our worship services on the weekend that follows, May 16 and 17. Coinciding with this feast day is our annual celebration of Church Music Sunday at both the 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. services on May 17. Choirs and instrumentalists will offer joyful anthems of praise and we will together sing "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise." And yes, the choirs will be singing that wonderful spiritual about "Music in the Air." What a wonderful celebration it will be, with music and song reaching to the rafters! Hope to see you in worship that day.

Grace and peace,
Janice Butz, Minister of Music

CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY

a celebration of Jesus' ascension through music and song

MAY 17, 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

The Festival Choir and Brass Ensemble will participate
at both services,

with children's and youth choirs joining us for worship at 10:45 a.m.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Please notify the Church Office if you are graduating from high school or college this May/June so that we can inform the congregation of your accomplishments! (December 2014 graduates are also invited to participate.) Please include your name, school graduating from and date, any awards you will receive, and your future plans. We'd like to include the information in the June newsletter.



Submission deadline is June 10th.

IN OUR CHURCH

*Anniversary Sunday
June 7, 2015*



Hosted by the Katherine Von Bora Society

*Celebrating your 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th,
30th, 40th, 50th or more*

*Wedding Anniversary during the year
2015*

*If so, you are invited to celebrate
beginning with the 10:45 a.m. Worship
Service on Sunday, June 7th. A luncheon
for all the celebrating couples will follow
in the Fellowship Hall. There is no
charge, but kindly RSVP by
Sunday, May 31th.*

Graduation News



Kelly Wallace: Cornell University, Biological Sciences
Graduated – Dec. 20, 2014 –
Commencement - May 24, 2015

Charles H. Turner Award of the Animal Behavioral Society
Future Plans: PhD- Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, University of Texas at Austin.

Meaghan Kelly: Nazareth Area High School
Commencement June 5th, 2015
Future Plans: Temple University, International Business

Name:

We are celebrating our _____ Wedding Anniversary on _____.

Please complete and return in the offering plate or to the Church Office by Sunday May 31th.

Happy Mother's Day!

From the Staff of St. John's





A Message from the Director of Youth & Family Ministries

MAY MESSENGER 2015

We are at T-minus two months until we leave for the Youth Gathering. 23 youth and 7 adult leaders are signed up from our church, and 3 other churches' groups will be joining us on our bus to Detroit. We leave on July 14th to participate in this year's theme of Rise Up Together with 30,000 other high school youth and adult leaders. It is sure to be an experience we will never forget!

While in Detroit, all groups will be participating in a service day where they will complete a service project to better the city. So proud to say that our current high school youth from St. John's have a heart for serving, so we are looking forward to whatever the Gathering throws our direction. It could be anything, such as helping underprivileged children, facing literacy issues, getting our hands dirty by building or painting, etc. The youth are all dedicated and

hardworking members, and this Youth Gathering is sure to expand their faith and challenge them even more.

Over the next two months, I encourage you to keep a close look out for fundraisers and service projects the youth will be doing before we leave. One important thing coming up is our Diaper Drive. We were told by the city of Detroit that diapers were the number one requested item by families in need. 3T and 4T were the most requested size, but all sizes are appreciated. If you would like to donate diapers, we will be collecting them beginning June 1st. The collection will continue until July 13th, the day before we leave for Detroit. We would love to fill up our extra bus space with all the diapers we can bring!

We thank you in advance for all your help and support!

Blessings,

Jaime L. Taylor

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

UPCOMING EVENTS

Clothing Drive Fundraiser: Clothing collection ends on May 1st at 6:00 pm. Youth Gathering participants: Fashion Republic will be picking up the items on Saturday, May 2nd - we will need all of your help! Please meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 am on May 2nd so we can sort and load the truck. Thank you!

Confirmation: Confirmation takes place on Sunday, May 24th at the 10:45 am Worship Services

Packing Boxes for Military: On Wednesday, May 27th, at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will be packing boxes that will be shipped to military personnel. We will start promptly, so please arrive on time if you wish to help!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015

Monday, June 22nd – Friday, June 26th
9:00 am – 12 Noon
St. John's Lutheran Church, Nazareth
Ages 4 (by July 22) through 5th grade

Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power! Send your kids on an icy expedition! At Everest VBS, kids embark on the coolest adventure of the summer! Everest VBS is filled with incredible Bible learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Scieny-Fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life – something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear *that* phrase a lot!

Donation: Registration by June 14th is \$7 per child. Registration at the door is \$10 per child. Please register as soon as possible to help with planning. Cash or check may be made payable to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church with "Vacation Bible School" in the memo line. Please put completed registration forms and donations (together in an envelope) in the offering plate or in the Church Office mailbox.

Child's name: _____ Child's gender: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Parent/Caregiver Cell Phone: _____

Home email address: _____

Home church: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____ Relationship to child: _____

Who besides me can pick up my child: _____

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Yes, I am willing to volunteer!! _____ I am unable to volunteer _____

I am willing to donate supplies, please call me!! Yes _____ No _____

PASTORAL ACTS



We gladly received the following new members into the family and fellowship of St. John's congregation in the month of April 2015:

Anthony Petrillo April 1, 2015

Brianna Simpson April 12, 2015

John Rich April 12, 2015

Eric Durn April 13, 2015



We rejoice that those listed below have been liberated from sin and death by being joined in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ through the sacrament of Holy Baptism in the months of March & April 2015

Adelise Angelica Miller

Baptized on March 28, 2015

Daughter of Benjamin & Andrea Miller

Hayden Anne Miller

Baptized on April 19, 2015

Daughter of Timothy & Melissa Miller

Grayson Tuporski

Baptized on April 12, 2015

Son of Clay & Ashley Toporski



Received in the month of

April

Alverna Acker

June Hilbert, Helen Trach,

Dean & Marie Rissmiller,

Hallmark Global Services, and Crayola Employees



Our heartfelt Christian sympathy goes out to the families and friends of the following members and friends of St. John's who passed into eternal life in the month of March and April 2015.

Margaret Hauser

March 25, 2015

Alverna A. Acker

April 1, 2015

William Mertz

April 6, 2015

Geraldine Richline

April 7, 2015

Stanley Staples

April 9, 2015

Judithann Noecker Sonnemann *February 16, 2015*

Memorial service April 18, 2015

Property Committee

Two years ago the Property committee embarked on a project to restore and preserve the stain glass window facing Broad St. Nobody could have imagined the end result and the beauty it has brought to the church.

This year the Nativity window on Prospect St. will be done in the same manner as the Ascension window. This was a coordinated effort between various committees and being funded by the Building Trust Endowment and the Finance committees. These funds are allocated for certain types of projects and will be paid for by the interest collected from our investments.

The project will begin in mid-late summer and we ask for your patience as we embark on this project and restore the Nativity window for many more years to come.

Helping Hands ~ Free Trip to Illinois! Please join us!

2015 marks the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the tenth year that St. John's Helping Hands has been traveling the country helping people to get back in their homes after a natural disaster. This year we will be going to Metropolis, Illinois to help rebuild after a tornado tore through their town in 2013. Please join us for a rewarding week of hard work and fun fellowship! No previous skills are required. and there is no cost to you. The trip dates are Sunday, July 19 – Friday, July 24. Interested? Have questions? Contact Gail Price 610-704-8736 or Keith Shook 610-533-6446 or come to our meeting on Tuesday, May 19 at 7:30.



FOOD BANK WEEKEND:

May 30th-31st

The Nazareth Area Food Bank needs to replenish its supply of canned meats/tuna and canned beans (baked, butter, red, black), but we also welcome any other items you would like to donate. The Food Bank also uses the **large-sized brown paper bags** so if you need to make room in your pantry, drop them off as well. **THANK YOU!!**

Groups serving Christ through St. John's Church

Fellowship this month will be on Sunday May 17th. This month's hosts will be St. John's Day Care and the Property Committee.

ST. JOHN'S DAY CARE CENTER



The Day Care Center provides a safe and loving environment for our

community's children. While in their care, the Center's personnel strive to provide a positive and nurturing atmosphere where our children can grow and develop their learning and social skills. Happiness and laughter are essential ingredients of their philosophy. The Day Care operates every Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm and provides care for children ages 6 weeks through School age (children attending first grade thru age 11). If you have an interest in learning more about their programs, please call them at 610-759-4999, or email Lisa Todd, Director, at lisat@rcn.com.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is responsible for overseeing the maintenance and repair of the church, Fellowship Hall, Parsonage, and other properties. This service encompasses all phases of construction, electrical work, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, landscaping, and snow



Property Committee

removal in the winter. The committee is looking for volunteers to help with care and maintenance of our church. If you have any questions about any of these areas or would like to help, speak to one of the representatives at the Fellowship gathering.

Come join us for fellowship on May 17th. Take a few minutes to chat with representatives of these two groups and find out more about their activities and plans. You may find you may want to become part of their efforts.

The Pennharmonics

The premier contemporary a cappella group from Penn State University returns for their 3rd appearance at St. John's on

Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.

The Pennharmonics are among the finest examples of contemporary collegiate a cappella singing. Often creating their own arrangements or writing original compositions, the group experiments in vocal percussion, complex textures and driving rhythms, and also incorporates movement and choreography in their performance. Our own St. John's member, Jilian Keller, is a senior at Penn State and a singer in the ensemble. Come and hear vocal artists who create breathtaking, out of the box a cappella performances. A freewill offering will be received.

Stewardship Ministry – Stewardship in God’s Future

We cannot speak enough about the biblical role of the steward. Our patterns of commitment to the sharing of our time, talents and possessions are the lifelong practices of living our faith in the community of God’s stewards.

In the life of God’s community, we are deeply rooted in our biblical history and tradition, which is richly filled with possibilities for understanding our ongoing life as people of God. For us to claim the role of steward, we must embrace as it is written, that all that we are and all that we have, come to us as a gift from God. How easy it is for us to be distracted from or even forget this most basic tenet.

We have experienced close to a decade of turbulent economic times, reminding us of the age-old question that comes out of Israel’s experience in Babylonian exile: “How can we sing the Lord’s Song in a strange land?” The strange land of our own financial future instills a tone of uncertainty in this question. Is it the fear that our voices may not be heard over our anxieties, our problems and crises? As the prophets spoke of such things, they understood that to sing the Lord’s Song in the crises of any age, we must be rooted in our faith community.

Joined with the faith of those of the past and our courage and belief in our own faith now and into the future, we must move forward with the confidence in knowing that our future is God’s future. To be a steward is to be entrusted through God’s grace, in partnership with Him and with one another for the preservation of the Church and God’s Word in our ongoing life as the people of God.

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

Portions of this article taken from: “A Theology of United Methodist Giving.”



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS! ~Every Sunday IN May (3, 10, 17, & 24) Packing supplies on May 27th Items for “Support Our Troops” are once again being gathered! The boxes we send are very much appreciated, according to the thank you notes we have received over the years. Puzzles; paperback books; popular magazines such as *Car & Driver*, *Popular Mechanics*, *People*, and current *Reader’s Digest*; popcorn; packets of instant oatmeal, coffee, cocoa, tea and Kool Aid; candy (no chocolate); chewing gum; peanuts; energy bars; breakfast bars; Cracker Jack; beef jerky; black socks; lip balm; small plastic containers of baby powder, shampoo, hand and body lotion, and shower gel are all useful to include in the mailings. If anyone has the address of someone serving in the military in Afghanistan, please leave that information in the Church Office and boxes will be sent. Thanks to our caring congregation for participation in the past. We remember those who serve our country with our prayers and our boxes from home. — The Social Ministry Committee



Love-A-Lot Nursery School



Following our Easter break in April, we returned to school with renewed energy! We have a lot of fun projects that center on what we see outside during this time of year (rain, umbrellas, rainbows, caterpillars, butterflies, and bugs of all shapes and sizes).

Since the 4yo class enjoyed their trip to The Crayola Factory in March, it was only fair that the 3yo class enjoyed a day outside of the classroom. At the end of April, the 3yo class enjoyed a tour and story time at the Nazareth Library with Miss Catherine. The children & their siblings thoroughly enjoyed seeing Miss Catherine in the library and listening to her stories in the fireplace room that followed a tour filled with fun facts that brought out lots of giggles (the parents enjoyed the history of that beautiful building as well!).

The 3yo class wrapped up their numbers in March, so April and May are filled with great review games and lessons – Number Bingo is proving to be a class favorite! The children are recognizing their names and wanting to write them as well – to prepare them for this, we are focusing more and more attention on their fine motor skill development by providing lots of independent play that enables them to hone these skills, as well as one-on-one lessons with fun activities that focus on hand/finger coordination and building strength.

The 4yo class finished the alphabet in April, so we are now in review mode – letters, shapes and colors and other concepts towards Kindergarten readiness (e.g., opposites, rhyming, sequencing, patterning, positioning, alliteration, etc.). Something else that is right around the corner is our graduation program; the 4yo class practiced songs from the entire year to be ready to put on a great show for family and friends at the end of May!

Both classes are also having their Spring evaluations done in April/May – so parents are aware of their progress from the Fall.

The 3yo class meets Tuesday/Thursday and the 4yo class meets Monday/Wednesday/Friday. Both classes run from 9-11:30 am with an optional lunch bunch for the 4yo class that runs 11:30-1pm. There are limited openings in both classes for September -- for more information, please call (484-293-0720) or email (LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com) the school.



NEWS FROM THE DAYCARE

MAY 2015

April was a busy month at the daycare center. The classrooms had so much fun with their egg hunts and special lunches and of course the visit from the Easter Bunny. The children also enjoyed the annual chick hatching. Quiver Farms brought in a hen and a rooster to visit and then left us with a dozen eggs ready to hatch. The preschool room took good care of them and they learned a lot about how chicks row inside the eggs. It was even more fun to take care of them after they hatched!

April 22nd was Earth Day and the classrooms talked about what they can do to help the environment. Reusing or throwing trash away, saving water, and turning lights off are just some of the things the classrooms learned they can do to help the earth. Parents for Progress, our parent group had a great way to use the plastic Easter eggs. Families were asked to use them in a display and there were some great ideas! A winner was drawn and they received 2 tickets to our Iron Pig game.

May 5th is Cinco de Mayo and some of the classrooms will use the holiday to teach the children about other cultures and maybe learn some words in Spanish. The first week of May is also Teacher Appreciation week and the center will be doing lots of things to show appreciation for our wonderful staff.

On May 17th the daycare will host fellowship hour with property. Please join us for refreshments after the morning service.

The daycare has decided to collect items for The Center for Animal Health and Welfare. We will be collecting items from May 11th to May 22nd. Below is a list of needed items. We were told that the canned cat food is particularly in need. If you would like to donate, please bring items to the daycare or you can even bring them to fellowship hour! Thank you for your help.

- *Cat Litter
- *Used blankets, towels, pillow cases and sheets
- *Dry cat/dog food (no color please)--we really like Science Diet and Purina One
- *Canned cat food
- *Canned dog food
- *Paper towels, Laundry detergent, Bleach
- *Cat Toys
- *Kongs & Large hard rubber dog toys
- *Buster Cubes
- *Long-handled scrub brushes
- *Nylon leashes (no flexie or chains please)
- *Buckle collars

- *Avery Postcard Index Stock # 8577
- 5" 1/2 x 4" 1/4
- *\$.28 post card stamps



NEWSLETTER

FROM

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

April 2015

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

“May Friendship Day”

This year’s title is

“Journey of the Caregiver”....the message is:

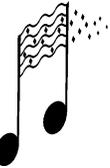
Caregiving is a task entrusted to us by God. As Women, we care for others throughout our lives: from children and youth, to our spouses and significant others, to our parents and grandparents. The committee, knowing the tasks of caregivers and their inability sometimes to care for themselves, recognizes a need of love and respite for our caregiving sisters (and brothers.) This May Friendship Day Celebration is for all people who struggle with their calling of caring for the needs of others. Caregiving can be a lonely place of isolation and frustration. Jesus calls all of us to care for the least of these. How can we provide support for our sisters in Christ who give their own lives in order to care for the needs of others? Like Simon of Cyrene who helped Jesus carry the cross to His crucifixion, how can we help lighten the burden of and caregivers and join them on their journey?

We hope that you can join us for this celebration. The happy to hear from you. And please bring a friend.....the more the merrier! This is also the time for the Fellowship of the Least Coin donation. If you want to know more about it, here is little information.

Fellowship of the Least Coin links prayer and “least coins” in a very significant way, as the Least coin becomes the symbol of prayer for peace and reconciliation. Fellowship of the Least Coin, an ecumenical prayer movement, was begun in 1956 by Shanti Solomon of India who believed that women anywhere could have a sense of being part of a worldwide family of faith as they prayed for peace and reconciliation and set aside the least coin of their country as a symbol of prayer. As coins are gathered from around the world, they become a sign of our oneness in the common quest for peace, justice and reconciliation. May Friendship Day is the traditional day for collecting the Least Coin Offering.

THE EASTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER SINGERS

participate in our worship service on Saturday evening, May 23 at 5:30 p.m.



The Easton Area High School Chamber Singers, under the direction of Pete Deshler, will bring their musical offerings to our Saturday evening worship on May 23. A select group of singers, the ensemble specializes in singing Renaissance music and madrigals. One of our St. John’s Chalice Choir members, Andrew Gifford, is a freshman at Easton Area High School and sings with the group. Join us at worship on Saturday, May 23, to hear the beautiful sound of these young singers.



Let's Get Those Cards Out and Wish a Blessed and Happy Birthday to Our Shut-In Friends Celebrating April and May!



Catherine Kerchner

April 27th

23 Sycamore Drive
Bath, PA 18014

Sandra Strausser

May 1st

2745 Washington Street
Easton, PA 18042

Alice Morris

April 28th

Gracedale SW2 Rm. 7
Nazareth, PA 18064

Margaret Reaman

May 1st

Pine Run Lakeview Assisted Living
2425 Lower State Road
Doylestown, PA 18901

HOW DO I SCHEDULE A BAPTISM?

Baptism classes are held once a month in the Church Parlor for those wishing to be baptized or for bringing children to the font. Typically the class is scheduled the second Sunday of the month. During the class, the meaning and importance of Baptism are presented and if there are any questions concerning the ceremony or sponsorship, they can be addressed at that time.

You may call the Church Office to make arrangements for the date / time of the baptism, which can be scheduled either during or after the Saturday or Sunday worship services.

Questions? Please feel free to contact the Church Office at 610-759-3090.



HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH?



If you or a friend of yours have been worshipping at St. John's and decide to make it your church home, classes for New Members are scheduled

once a month, usually on the first Sunday of the month in the Church Parlor.

The class is about one hour long and presents an overview of the Lutheran faith as well as a brief history. After deciding to join, a time is scheduled during one of the worship services to welcome the new member. Questions? Please feel free to contact the Church Office at 610-759-3090.

Veterans Remembrance Ceremony

Veteran's Memorial Flag Pole

Bushkill Twp. Rec Fields

opposite 1114 Bushkill Center Rd.

Sunday, May 24, 2015

1:30 pm



Flag Dedication Order Form



\$5.00 each

Order Deadline:

Monday, May 11

**rain location
Bushkill Fire Co.**

- **Honor Guard:** Northampton County Deputy Sheriffs
- **Flag Retirement:** Bushkill Township Boy Scout Troop 44
- **Rifle Squad:** U.S. Army Reserve 744th Military Police Battalion

Closing: taps offered by Randy Baxendale **Bushkill Township** invites everyone (residents & friends) to remember and honor deceased and living Veterans with a dedication and flag placed at the township's Veteran's Memorial Flag Pole for the ceremony on Sunday, May 24, 2015 at 1:30 pm. Cost is \$5.00 per dedication.

ORDER DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MAY 11...please make check payable to Bushkill Township and mail to or drop off at Municipal Building, 1114 Bushkill Center Rd., Nazareth, Pa. 18064.

The Veteran's name & branch of service will be read during the ceremony and will appear in the printed program. Donors may take their flag(s) after the ceremony.

Bushkill Township proudly honors and remembers Veterans...

Veterans Remembrance and Flag Retirement Ceremony

Sunday, May 24, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

The Third Annual Ceremony begins with the **Nazareth Community Band**, directed by Ralph Brodt III, playing a selection of patriotic music.

- **Invocation:** Rev. David Schaeffer, St. John Lutheran Church, Nazareth
- **Speaker:** Helen Sajer, co-founder of PA Wounded Warriors, Inc.



----- PRINT CLEARLY!-----

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Veteran's name: _____

Branch of Service: _____

(check) in MEMORY of _____ or in HONOR

of _____ if killed in action,

date/location _____

MEMORIAL DAY GERANIUM PLANTS

On Saturday, May 23rd & Sunday, May 24th, in honor of Memorial Day weekend, red geraniums will decorate the nave to honor our men and women who are currently serving our country in the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard), or veterans who have served in the past. If you wish to donate a plant in honor of or in memory of a service person, the cost is \$5.00 per plant. Your sponsor form and payment should be in the Church Office no later than Sunday, May 17th. Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with "Geraniums" in the memo line. **PLEASE NOTE: after the service, all of the geraniums will be planted around the church and the parsonage as a tribute to our beloved service members.**



Your name: _____ Phone: _____

I wish to donate _____ plant(s) at \$5.00 each. Total amount enclosed \$ _____

In Honor of	In Memory of	DEDICATION <i>(Please PRINT the dedication as you would like it to appear in the bulletin)</i>	DEDICATED BY (FROM)


The deadline for all submissions for the June 2015 issue of THE MESSENGER is:

Monday, May 11th. You may leave printed material in the Church Office mailbox or you may email your article or announcement as a Word attachment to stjohnschurch@rcn.com. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

◆ SYNOD NEWS ◆

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

May 2014



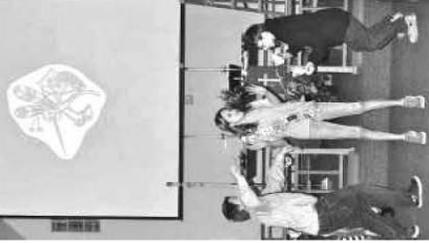
ELCA Malaria Campaign
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Every 60 Seconds a Child Dies from Malaria



Our Confirmation Class Malaria Project

Kayla Bicskei
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Dingmans Ferry
This year the confirmation class of Holy Trinity, Dingmans Ferry, decided to help their congregation learn about malaria. The 44 youth in the class are 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Kayla Bicskei, the article's author, is a 13-year-old 7th grader in her second year of the congregation's 3-year confirmation program.
When we heard that every sixty seconds a child dies from malaria, we had to do something. The ELCA Malaria Campaign had some great ideas. We decided to learn as much as we could about malaria and played the ELCA Malaria Jeopardy game. We then ordered the malaria packet and worked together to create a mosquito infestation at our church. We colored over 500 pictures of mosquitoes and put



them up everywhere. Congregational members and friends in the community have been allowed to take down a mosquito for a donation of between \$1.00 and \$5.00. After we did a skit at worship one Sunday, one wonderful man paid \$50.00 for one mosquito. So far we have raised more than \$500.00 and we are working to do more. When we collect money, we all wear mosquito net hats on our heads and stand by a mosquito net that is like the ones being delivered to Africa. We have been sharing the great information from the ELCA malaria materials that explains how the money will be used: *"The ELCA Malaria Campaign works with partner churches and organizations in Africa to treat and prevent malaria, to educate communities about malaria, and to support sustainable livelihood projects that allow families to stabilize their income and afford adequate health care."*

We are really hoping to stop malaria from killing kids just like us.



Changes to Synod Staff

Bishop Zeiser has announced staff changes following the retirement of **Pastors Glenn Simmons** and **Gene Handwerk**.

Pastor Kurt Garbe will assume responsibility for the Lehigh Mission District, Bear Creek Camp, and planning for synod assemblies and Bishop's Conferences. He will be liaison to the Worship Ministry Team, to rostered leaders in word and service ministries, and to retired rostered leaders, in addition to the Leadership Development Ministry Team and Global Companion relationships.

Pastor Peter Kuritz, pastor of Good Shepherd and St. John Churches in Wilkes-Barre, and dean of the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Mission District, will join the synod staff as liaison to that mission district. He will continue to serve Good Shepherd and St. John, but step down as dean.

Pastor Fred Crawford, retired and under contract at Christ Church in Mahanoy City, will join the synod staff as liaison to the Hazleton/Lehighton Mission District. He will continue to serve Christ Church.

Pastor Lori Kochanski, interim pastor at Salem and Holy Trinity Churches in Bethlehem, joins the synod as an associate of the bishop. She will be liaison to the Northern Lehigh Mission District, the Spirituality Ministry Team, (continued in the next column)

Community Labyrinth

In May of 2011 the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod presented a series of synod-wide events under the broad heading of "Do What Matters." The phrase, "Doing What Matters to God," reminded the people of St. Paul, Tower City that God calls the church to be intentional about its purpose. In an attempt to step outside of the proverbial box, the congregation formed a "Do What Matters" Committee.

They had a vision to construct a Labyrinth in the field adjacent to the church and to make it available to the whole community. The Labyrinth was completely funded by contributions made each Sunday and from local community organizations.

In October 2014 the Labyrinth was ready to be walked. Bishop Zeiser and the Committee gathered on the 12th of October to dedicate this site. "God's Work - Our Hands" describes beautifully the dedication and perseverance of the congregation and Committee in making this labyrinth a reality.

The Labyrinth is for use by the public, and walks are free of charge. The labyrinth is open dawn to dusk each day. If you are in the area, come and experience the peace of walking a labyrinth; and meet God where you are.

(continued from the previous column)

the Interim Ministry Committee, and rostered leaders serving as chaplains at various facilities. She will continue to serve Salem and Holy Trinity Churches until their pastoral transition is complete.

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SAINT JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NAZARETH

MISSION STATEMENT: *Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family of Believers of Christ, who worship together to be nourished by the proclamation of God's Word and by the gracious gifts of Baptism and Holy Communion. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, through education and fellowship, we respond in obedience to God's Word, without reserve, in service to the needs of all God's creation. Saint John's is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

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THE CHURCH STAFF

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Assist. Organist/Choir Director:
Patrice A. Kidd 610-867-1330

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Jennie M. Dishong jdishong@rcn.com

Parish Financial Secretary:
Bonnie Mertz financialsec@rcn.com

Sextons: Gary Baltz, Joe Marakovits, Tony Petrillo

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Christian Education - Susan Kelly
Day Care - Dean Brodt (Special appt.)
Endowment - Donald Himler (Special appt.)
Evangelism - Sharon Werner
Family & Youth Ministry - Jaime Taylor
Finance - Pastor Schaeffer
Love-A-Lot Nursery School - Susan Kelly
Personnel - Susan Kelly
Property - Alan Butz, Craig Rifendifer,
Wayne Vierzbicki
Social Ministry - Cathie Dara,
Stewardship - Ralph Deyo
Worship & Music - Steven Millheim, Jocelyn Starner, Joe Billy
Youth Representative - Billy Garrison

VOLUNTEER CHURCH STAFF

Altar Flowers
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Altar Guild
Jocelyn Starner 610-759-3205

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Christian Education Executive Board
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lo.huthie@yahoo.com

Church Council President
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Keith Shook 610-759-0594

Katherine Von Bora Society
Susan Kelly 610-746-2231

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Christina Brodt 610-419-4126

Love-A-Lot Nursery School
Sarah Ellis, Director 484-293-0720
LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com

Luther League (Youth Group - grades 7 and up)
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Media Ministry
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Prayer Chain
Betty Laubach 610-759-0225

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lisat@rcn.com

Ushers Schedule
Christina Brodt 610-419-4126

Women of the ELCA (WELCA)
Joyce Wallace 610-330-9113

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 YOUTH CLOTHING DRIVE ENDS AT 5:00 PM TODAY	2 10:00 AM Philethia Choir 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday of Easter 3 (white) 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM New Memb/ Bap.Class 10:45 AM Worship with Holy Communion	4 7:00 PM Rebekah Circle 7:30 PM Stewardship	5 9:00 AM Ladies Aid 4:00 PM JAM Sessions 6:00 PM VBS Meeting	6 9:30 AM Ruth Circle 12:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Chalice Choir 6:15 PM Confirmation 1 & 2 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Grp. 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Naz. Comm. Band	7 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #8220 6:30 PM Festival Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	8 4:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #81078	9 12:00 PM Shook Baptism 3:00 PM Wedding Rehear. 5:30 PM Family Alternative Worship with Holy Communion
6th Sunday of Easter 10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 3:00 PM Simpson/Rich Wedding	11 MESSENGER DEADLINE 6:30 PM Social Ministry 6:30 PM History 7:00 PM Day Care Board	12 9:00 AM Ladies Aid 12:00 PM HS Reunion Mt. 4:00 PM JAM Sessions 6:30 PM Sunday Sch. Mgt.	13 12:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Chalice Choir 6:15 PM Confirmation 1 & 2 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Grp. 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Pennharmonics In Concert	14 <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i> 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #8220 6:30 PM Evangelism	15 7:00 PM Love-A-Lot Graduation	16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i> 10:00 AM Festival Choir 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion
Ascension Sunday 17 (white) <i>Church Music Sunday</i> 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion Fellowship Social 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship with Holy Communion Fellowship Social	18 7:00 PM Finance 8:00 PM Endowment	19 <i>General Primary Elections</i> 9:00 AM Ladies Aid 6:30 PM Worship & Music 7:30 PM Helping Hands	20 12:00 PM Bible Study 5:00 PM Chalice Choir 6:15 PM Confirmation 1 & 2 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Grp. 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Naz. Comm. Band	21 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #8220 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	22 12:00 PM DEADLINE Church Council Report 4:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #81078	23 10:00 AM Philethia Choir 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion
Pentecost/Confirmation 24 (red) 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion & Fellowship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship with Confirmation & Fellowship	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED	26 9:00 AM Ladies Aid 6:00 PM Golf Jackets	27 12:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM Pack Troops Boxes 5:00 PM Chalice Choir 6:00 PM Golf Jackets 6:15 PM Confirmation 1 & 2 6:15 PM Sr. High Youth Grp. 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM NA 7:00 PM Church Council 7:30 PM Naz. Comm. Band	28 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	29	30 <i>Food Bank Weekend</i> 10:00 AM Philethia Choir 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion ~~~~~ 31 <i>Trinity Sunday (white)</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship with Baptism