

**The Rev. June E. Wann**  
**Pastor**

**Robert Billig**  
**President, Church Council**

**Zach Keenan**  
**Vice President, Church Council**

**Secretary**  
**Judy Ehret**

**Margy Muthard**  
**Treasurer**

**Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki**  
**Dir. Of Children, Youth,**  
**and Family Ministries**  
**And Financial Secretary**

**Jennifer Kishbaugh**  
**Dir. Of Music**

**Claudette Nia**  
**Office Administrator**

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3355 MACARTHUR ROAD**  
**WHITEHALL, PA 18052**

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**May 1 is May Day.** Mark the return of spring by bringing in branches of forsythia, lilacs, or other flowering shrubs from your region. May Day is also "Lei Day" in Hawaii. Leis are garlands or wreaths that are often made with native Hawaiian flowers such as plumeria. Nowadays, they are given as a symbol of greeting, farewell, affection, celebration, or honor, in the spirit of aloha.


**May 4th** Faith Lutheran is **hosting the Hunger Initiative Community Meal from 4—6 PM in Parker Hall**

**May 5 is Cinco de Mayo ("The Fifth of May").** This day celebrates the victory of the Mexican army over the French army at The Battle of Puebla in 1862!

**May 11 is Mother's Day—don't forget!**

**May 17 is Armed Forces Day,** which honors those who serve in all branches of the United States military.

**May 22 is National Maritime Day.** Created in commemoration of the first transoceanic voyage via steamboat (completed by the U.S.S. *Savannah* in 1819), this holiday recognizes the efforts of the U.S. merchant marine during both war and peace.



## From the Pastor's Desk

*"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19)*

In May, the world outside reminds us of resurrection. Trees that were bare are blooming, people begin planting flowers and gardens, the daylight lasts longer, the ground is no longer frozen and the days are warmer. May is a time when God's creation itself seems to echo the promise of Easter: new life is here! There's a natural joy in this season, and it is a reminder that God is always in the business of renewal.

After Easter Sunday has come and gone, it's easy to wonder, "what now?" Easter Sunday often feels like a mountaintop moment. The church is filled with energy and flowers, and there's joy in the air. We proclaim, "Christ is risen!" with full hearts and voices. It's a day of celebration (and rightfully so)! But now that Easter is over and we're heading back to our ordinary rhythm, what does the resurrection look like in our everyday lives? Because Easter does not just end at the empty tomb. Jesus appears to his disciples, not just once, but again and again. He walks with them, eats with them, encourages them to carry the good news into the world. Easter is not the end of the story; it's the beginning of a new way of living. It is the beginning of a new hope that we have forever with Christ. It is a new promise for each one of you.

Because after the resurrection, Jesus did not simply make one grand appearance and disappear. He continued showing up: in gardens, on roads, behind locked doors. He met people in the middle of their confusion, in their grief and sorrow, and in their everyday lives, bringing peace, grace and love. And, that's still how Christ comes to us. He does not always show up in big, dramatic ways, but in the ordinary and the daily. In the quiet moments of forgiveness and love. In the gift of community. In the encouragement to keep going. In every act of love, no matter how small it may seem.

Easter continues even in those seemingly small moments, quiet faithfulness, and love shown. This season invites us to look for new life, not only in nature, but in our hearts, our relationships, and in our community. I see signs of resurrection life every day in this wonderful congregations I see it in the laughter of our youth as they serve as acolytes, as they served breakfast on Easter morning, and as they navigate their journey of faith and learn what it means to follow Jesus. I see it in their curiosity and questions. I see it in the volunteers who offer their time and energy week after week, whether it is for installing our new air conditioner, sewing quilts, preparing holiday food baskets, counting offering, assembling bulletins, serving food, fellowship, Sunday School, councils, and committees. I see it in your prayers, songs, and service. I see it in people comforting and showing up for one another. I see it in all the people who stick around before and after worship to visit with one another.

In other words: I see it in YOU. So, thank you. Thank you for being the church, not just on Sundays, but every day in between. Not just in a building, but everywhere. You are witnesses to new life, signs of God's love made visible.

Therefore, as we move further into this season of growth, may we trust that God is doing a new thing among us. Because of the crucified and risen Jesus, new life is not only a future promise, but also a present reality. Through his resurrection, you are made new and have the promise of life eternal. And through the Spirit working in our lives, that new life is revealed in us. Through the good work God has begun in you and in this community, we witness glimpses of God's Kingdom already here, and it will one day be brought to completion. With great joy and confidence, we declare that we can perceive the new life we have been given through Jesus Christ, now and forevermore.

In the love of the Risen Christ,

Pastor June Wann



♦ Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 am

- ♦ Sunday School classes available from Bible Babies to Adult Forum.
- ♦ Confirmation Classes for our youth in Seventh & Eighth grades.  
This is a two-year program
- ♦ Adult Forum classes are held in the Gathering Place

**Communion—The first Tuesday of each month,  
join us for a light lunch at noon  
followed by communion at 1:00.**

*We hope to encourage our members who are uncomfortable driving at night, to use this time for fellowship that was enjoyed at our Wednesday night Hotdogs and Hymns. All are welcome!*

*Bring a friend.*

**Altar Communion—The first Sunday of each month  
celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!**



## **Celebrate the Halfway Point to Summer on May 1**

### **May Day (May 1) celebrates the return of spring!**

#### **The Origins of May Day**

Did you know that May Day has its roots in astronomy? Traditionally, it was the halfway point between the spring equinox and the summer solstice! In ancient times, this was one of the Celtic cross-quarter days, which marked the midway points between the (four) solstices and equinoxes of the year.

As with many early holidays, May Day was rooted in agriculture. Springtime festivities filled with song and dance celebrated the sown fields starting to sprout. Cattle were driven to pasture, special bonfires were lit, and the doors of houses and livestock were decorated with yellow May flowers. In the Middle Ages, the Gaelic people celebrated the festival of Beltane, which means “Day of Fire.” People created large bonfires and danced at night to celebrate.

May Day has a long history and tradition in England, some of which eventually came to America. Children would dance around the maypole, holding onto colorful ribbons. People would “bring in the May” by gathering wildflowers and green branches, weaving floral hoops and hair garlands, and crowning a May king and queen.

#### **When Is May Day?**

This one is easy to remember: **May Day occurs annually on May 1**

#### **The Maypole Dance**

Did you ever dance around the maypole as a child? Wrapping a maypole with colorful ribbons is a joyous tradition that still exists in some schools and communities.

Initially, the maypole was a living tree chosen from the woods with much merrymaking. Ancient Celts danced around the tree, praying for the fertility of their crops and all living things! For younger people, there was the possibility of courtship. If a young woman and man paired by sundown, their courtship continued so that the couple could get to know each other and, possibly, marry 6 weeks later on June’s Midsummer’s Day. This is how the “June wedding” became a tradition. In the Middle Ages, all villages had maypoles. Towns would compete to see who had the tallest or best maypole. Over time, this Old English festival incorporated dance performances, plays, and literature. People would crown a “**May Queen**” for the day’s festivities.

The strict Puritans of New England considered the celebrations of May Day to be licentious and pagan, so they forbade its observance, and the springtime holiday never became an important part of American culture as it was in many European countries.

Interestingly, from the late 19th century through the 1950s, the maypole dance and festivities became a rite of spring at some U.S. colleges. Seen as a wholesome tradition, this celebration often included class plays, Scottish dancing, Morris dancing, a cappella concerts, and cultural dancing and music displays.

In the 1960s and 1970s, interest waned; the May Queen and her court became more of a popularity contest. Today, the maypole dance is mainly celebrated in schools (from elementary through college) as a fun spring activity.

## Making a May Basket

Ever heard of the May baskets? People would leave a paper basket or cone containing spring flowers and sweets on each other's doorsteps, usually anonymously.

This tradition was popular through the 19th and 20th centuries, especially with children or sweethearts. The custom was to knock on the door, yell "May basket!" and then run. If the recipient caught the giver, he or she was entitled to a kiss.

Louisa May Alcott wrote about May Basket Day in the late 1800s. In the 1920s, some bold schoolchildren hung a May basket for First Lady Grace Coolidge on the White House door.

The May Day basket is still a cherished tradition for some Americans, although it's not well known today. To make a simple May basket, fold a piece of colored paper into the shape of a cone. Then fill it with wildflowers! If you don't have colored paper, roll up and secure (with tape or a staple) a paper plate. Draw on the plate with spring colors and fill it with flowers!

You could also fill a real basket with little gifts such as flower seed packets, baked cookies, candies, and pretty trinkets. If you don't have a basket, an empty milk carton or seed pot would also do the trick. Just cover it in colored paper or pretty streamers and fill it with tissue paper!

## 10 Ways to Celebrate May Day

Why not celebrate May Day? Here are some joyful May Day traditions marking the return of spring and the renewed gift of life.

Among the many superstitions associated with May Day was the belief that washing the face with dew on the morning of May 1 would beautify the skin and bring good luck. We say go ahead! Walk outside and sprinkle your face with morning dew (or snow!).

On May 1, people in Britain welcome spring by "Bringing in the May," or gathering cuttings of flowering trees for their homes. Bring in branches of forsythia, magnolia, redbud, lilac, or other flowering branches in your region! Make that May Day Basket of flowers! Get the kids involved. We like this little fellow's homemade basket, which he's probably leaving for Mom (shhh!).

in Hawaii May 1 is called "Lei Day," and people make pretty leis. Leis are garlands or wreaths that are often made with native Hawaiian flowers and leaves. These days, leis are given as a symbol of greeting, farewell, affection, celebration, or honor—all in the spirit of aloha. Make a lei or a garland for yourself or your mother!

Kids would go barefoot on May Day for the first time. Whatever your age today, walk barefoot in the morning dew (or snow?). Encourage the kids to do the same!

In parts of Ireland, people would make a May bush; typically, this was a thorn bush or branch decorated with flowers and ribbons. Create your own May bush or tree! Just decorate with colored ribbons!

Beekeepers traditionally moved bees on May 1.

Fishermen expect to catch fish on May Day. [Find our Best Fishing Days here.](#)

Traditionally, farmers planted turnips on this day. Other folklore has it that, to protect cucumbers from insects, they should be planted on May 1.

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The Kentucky Derby starts off the month of May (the first Saturday of the month).

# **WORSHIP TEAMS FOR MAY**

**MAY 4**

**MAY 11**

**MAY 18**

**MAY 25**

|                                     |  |   |   |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>ALTAR<br/>GUILD</b>              | <b>CHARLENE FRACK<br/>AND<br/>GLORIA SENCHAK</b> | <b>DIANE BATZA<br/>AND<br/>CATHY HALLER</b> | <b>PAT MASONHEIMER<br/>AND<br/>BAR YURASITS</b> | <b>SHEL<br/>AND<br/>JUDY EHRET</b> |
| <b>ASSIST-<br/>ING<br/>MINISTER</b> | <b>JUDY EHRET</b>                                | <b>SHEL EHRET</b>                           | <b>ROBERT BILLIG</b>                            | <b>SUE STAHLER</b>                 |
| <b>LECTOR</b>                       | <b>HOWARD SCHAF-<br/>FER</b>                     | <b>JENNIFER REINER</b>                      | <b>KINDALL WANN</b>                             |                                    |
| <b>GREETER</b>                      | <b>APRIL SPAITS</b>                              |   | <b>CHARLENE FRACK</b>                           |                                    |
| <b>FLOWER<br/>SPONSOR</b>           | <b>ROSEMARIE AND<br/>MEL HAFFNER</b>             |   |   | <b>MIKE AND CAROL<br/>MILLER</b>   |
| <b>BULLETIN<br/>SPONSOR</b>         | <b>ROSEMARIE AND<br/>MEL HAFFNER</b>             |   |   | <b>MIKE AND CAROL<br/>MILLER</b>   |

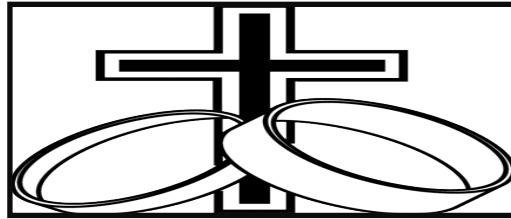
# MAY 2025 CALENDAR

| SUN   | MON   | TUES   | WED                            | THURS  | FRI | SAT<br>1  |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--|-----|---|
|   |   |  |                                | 1<br>6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)<br><br>6:15 Bell Choir<br><br>7:30 Senior Choir | 2   | 3   |
| 4<br><br>Sunday School: 9:00 AM<br>Worship Service 10:00 AM<br><u>Community meal 4-6 pm PH</u><br>AA<br>7:00 PM | 5<br><br>6:00 PM Brownies<br><br>7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)  | 6<br><br><u>Light lunch and pew communion noon, 1:00 pm</u><br><br>10:30 AM Prayer Group<br>6:45 PM Boy Scouts | 7<br><br>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  | 8<br><br>6:00 PM Cub Scouts<br>6:15 Bell Choir<br>7:30 Senior Choir          | 9   | 10<br><br>Men's ministry<br>9:00 am Parker Hall<br>\$5.00 |
| 11<br>Sunday School: 9:00 AM<br>Worship Service 10:00 AM<br>7:00 PM AA  | 12<br><br>6:00 PM Brownies<br><br>7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH) | 13<br><br>10:30 AM Prayer Group<br>6:45 PM Boy Scouts<br><u>7:00 pm Executive Council</u>                      | 14<br><br>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts | 15<br><br>6:00 PM Cub Scouts<br>6:15 Bell Choir<br>7:30 Senior Choir         | 16  | 17  |
| 18<br><br>Sunday School 9:00 AM<br><br>Worship Service 10:00 AM<br><br>AA<br>7:00 PM                            | 19<br><br>6:00 PM Brownies<br><br>7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH) | 20<br><br>10:30 AM Prayer Group<br><br>6:45 PM Boy Scouts<br><br><u>7:00 PM Church Council</u>                 | 21<br><br>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts | 22<br><br>6:00 PM Cub Scouts<br>6:15 Bell Choir<br>7:30 Senior Choir         | 23  | 24  |
| 25<br><br>Sunday School: 9:00 AM<br>Worship Service 10:00 AM<br>7:00 PM AA (PH)                                 | 26<br><br>6:00 PM Brownies<br><br>7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH) | 27<br><br>10:30 AM Prayer Group<br><br>6:45 PM Boy Scouts  | 28<br><br>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts | 6:00 PM Cub Scouts<br>6:15 Bell Choir<br>7:30 Senior Choir<br>29             | 30  | 31<br><br>Memorial Day                                    |

*I hope ☆  
your day ☆  
is full of ☆  
fun and ☆  
celebration!*

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### ANNIVERSARIES

GERLACH, RONALD & KAREN 05/01  
YOO, CHRISTOPHER 05/01  
STAHLER, ROBERT & SUSAN 05/20  
CLEWELL, ANNMARIE & DONALD 05/27  
MILLER, MICHAEL & CAROL 05/28  
SMYKOWSKI, THOMAS & DEANNA 05/30



### BIRTHDAYS

EBERHART, LINDA 05/02  
HOLOBUSKY, CINDY 05/05  
CAVE, SAMANTHA 05/08  
CLEWELL, ANNMARIE 05/08  
KEENAN, AVA 05/08  
SCHAFER, HOWARD 05/08  
YOO, CHRISTOPHER 05/09  
FOCHT, JANET 05/12  
KISHBAUGH, MATTHEW 05/30  
TROTTER JR, BRUCE 05/31

# GERANIUM(S) and GERBER DAISIES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

Orders are being taken for Geraniums +/-or Gerber Daisies  
donations may also be made to the Food Bank.

The price of each is \$6.00.

Checks should be made payable to "Faith Lutheran Church".

The last day orders can be taken is May 18

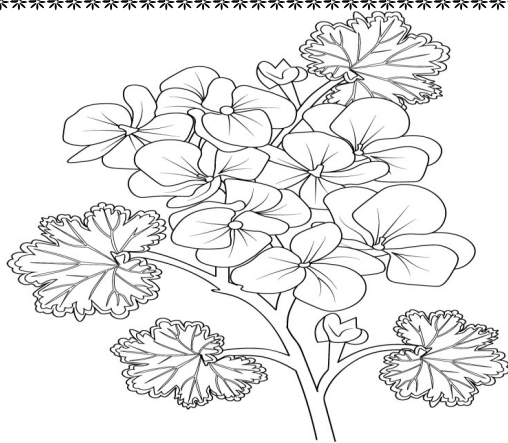
I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_Geranium(s) and/or \_\_\_\_\_Gerber Daisies at \$6.00 each for use  
during Pentecost Service. The total amount due is \_\_\_\_\_.

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Will pick up - \_\_\_\_\_ Food Bank \_\_\_\_\_

Ordered By: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_



**This coming Sunday, May 4th, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
We at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Whitehall  
Are hosting  
Whitehall-Coplay's Hunger Initiative Community Meal  
Featuring a Spaghetti Dinner: both red and white sauce and all the fixin's  
Volunteer help is always welcome  
Meal prep begins after service in Parker Hall**

**Men's Ministry      May 10, 2025      9:00 AM      Parker Hall      \$5.00**

**Dear friends of the Food Pantry,  
It is becoming more difficult to find the food that we need for our patrons through Second Harvest, our food supplier. We would be grateful for help with the following foods or money to purchase the foods that we need:**

**Cereal  
Juice (non-refrigerated if possible due to limited refrigeration)  
Coffee  
Pastas (penne, rigatoni, soup noodles, etc.)  
Soups  
Canned fruits  
Canned vegetables**

**We are extremely grateful for your support to help those experiencing difficult times.  
Judy and Shel Ehret**

**ROBERT L. GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP**

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND RETURNING COLLEGE STUDENTS.**

**IT'S TIME TO APPLY FOR THE ROBERT L. GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP.**

**IF YOU HAVE APPLIED IN THE PAST BUT DID NOT RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP,**

**YOU MAY APPLY AGAIN.**

**ALL APPLICATIONS CAN BE PICKED UP IN THE NARTHEX OR**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE, MONDAY-THURSDAY 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**The deadline for submitting the completed application to the office is June 30, 2025**

## LIVING OUR BAPTISM...*Five gifts of discipleship*

When a baptized Christian affirms the faith (often called confirmation) the presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism and asks the question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

**to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?**

RESPONSE: We do, and ask God to help and guide us. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 236)

And so begins a daily claiming and re-discovering of the God-given gifts of discipleship. These gifts overlap and are intertwined as one gift flows into another and into faithful living.

### FIVE GIFTS OF DISCIPLESHIP ... *during Easter*

The season of Easter is an ideal time of the church year to emphasize LIVING OUR BAPTISM and discover the five gifts of discipleship. Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus defeats death itself. He is risen indeed!

Easter propels us from the tomb and stench of death into a new life provided by Christ alone. Jesus lives again, but the story of his resurrection is not limited to his own single life. He lives, so others might live again. He lives, so we might be infused by the Holy Spirit to live as a new creation and in loving relationship with God.

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans writes,

"Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." (Romans 6:4-5 NRSV)

Baptism and Easter have always had a strong connection. As Christianity spread in the early church, the weeks before Easter were used to instruct and prepare people for their upcoming baptism at the Easter Vigil—the night before Easter Sunday. The liturgy of Holy Baptism beautifully describes this new life in Christ Jesus:

"God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world." (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, page 227)

Of all seasons of the year, the weeks of the Easter season end themselves to focus on "Living our Baptism." What does it mean to "join in God's mission for the life of the world"?



### **LIVING OUR BAPTISM**

During the season of Easter, focus on "Living our Baptism." Integrate key sentences from the liturgy of Sacrament of Holy Baptism with the gifts of discipleship:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 236)

### **EASTER: Living Our Baptism!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 230)

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER: Live among God's faithful people**

We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 227)

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER: Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,**

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 231)

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed.**

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 231)

### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: Serve all people, following the example of Jesus.**

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 230)

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: Strive for justice and peace in all the earth**

We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 227)

### **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: Alleluia!**

Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 231)

### **LIVING OUR BAPTISM**

#### **7 Texts for**

#### **7 days or 7 weeks**

What does it mean to have a life in Christ?

Romans 5:10-11

Romans 5:17-18

Romans 6:4

Romans 6:22-23

Romans 8:2

Romans 8:6

Romans 8:38-39

## DWELLING IN THE WORD

### A devotional resource

**Romans 5:1-5** Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

**Philippians 3:12-14** Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Revelation 21:1-4** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

### Hope

If I were reading these verses online, which words or phrases would I like to "link" to further information?

Further historical information?

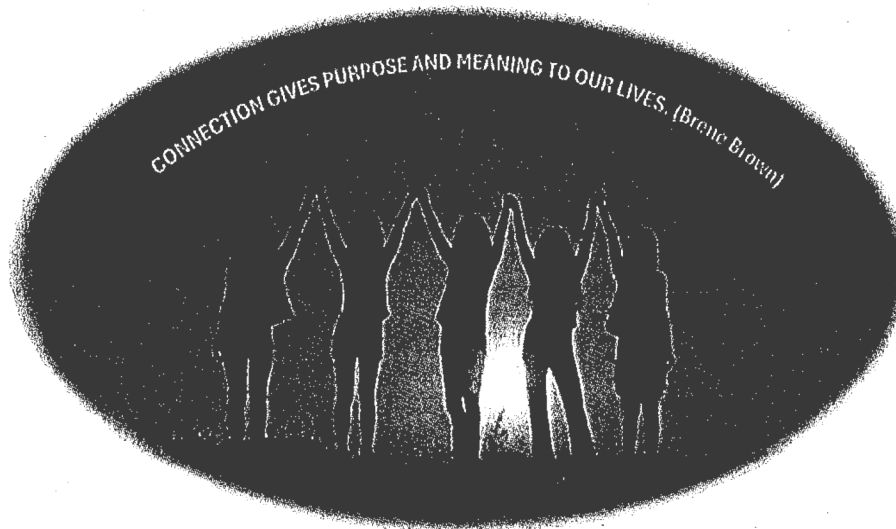
How do teachings of the Christian faith (perhaps, from a Lutheran perspective) help me better understand these passages?

What do I hear God saying to me in these passages?

Does anything come to mind for the topic of Dwelling in the Word - Hope?

Pause for prayer, giving thanks for God's word.

# YOU ARE INVITED TO A SESSION OF WOMEN CONNECTING PRESENTED BY REV. HARRIET KOLLIN



## **A seasonal gathering for Peer Spiritual Direction**

This program offers participants a safe and hospitable place to accompany each other on the inner path towards self-discovery, healing, and wholeness through storytelling and listening. Sharing our stories connects us to our common ground as human beings and frees us to become who we truly are and who we are called to be. In this program participants offer each other a listening presence at the same time cultivating an awareness of the spiritual journey that each one is a part of. Listening is a powerful act of service that inspires and gives hope for better relationships with others and the world, not to mention ourselves.

### **COME WITH AN OPEN MIND AND AN OPEN HEART.**

Free and open to the public. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.

Registration is required. To reserve your place: please call 610-435-3901 or send an email to [saintste@ptd.net](mailto:saintste@ptd.net). Deadline to register is 5/16/25.

Please email if you need additional information or have questions.

**Saturday, May 24, 2025**

**9:30am – 12:30 pm**

**Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church**

**3900 Mechanicsville Road, Whitehall, PA 18052**

**Brown bag lunch to follow session for those interested in staying.**



# Spring Into Action & Donate Blood!

*Faith Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
Adopt A Day*

Miller-Keystone Blood Center  
1465 Valley Center Parkway  
Bethlehem, PA 18017

*April 22- May 6*

Use the link to schedule an appointment  
Group Code is #0806



Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

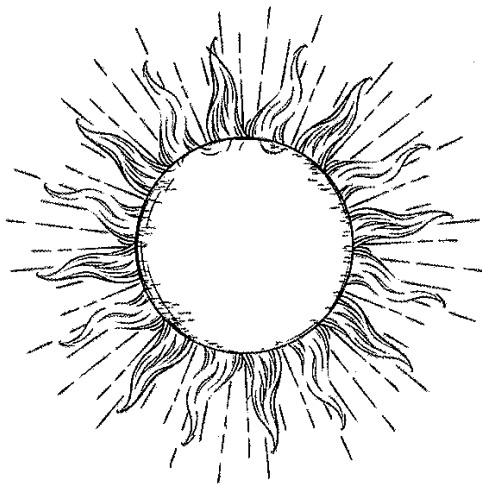
35th Annual Convention

June 14, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church, Nazareth, PA

Registration - 9 AM    Voting Member Orientation - 9:30 AM

*Renew Yourself with Gods Word:*



Isaiah 40:31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint. (NRSV)



# AMERICAN

## *Family Services*

American Family Services is a ministry of the Family Thrift Shoppes.

American Family Services' mission is to assist churches in strengthening families and marriages.

### Day Care Center



Our ministry provides a beautiful Day Care facility in Whitehall Pennsylvania. Our center offers affordable tuition rates to children ages 3-5 years old..



### Family Lending Libraries

The Family Lending Libraries are open to the public and contain Christian DVDs/ books of over 1,000 Christian family related titles. These are all available without charge. The libraries are located in Whitehall and Hellertown., Pennsylvania and Santa Barbara, California

### Loving Marriage Weekends



American Family Services conducts Loving Marriage Weekends .

The weekends are designed to enrich and strengthen marriages.

They are available free of charge to couples.

For more information please call 610-351-3069.

Ministry Office Address:

1025 Macarthur Road

Whitehall, PA 18052

Phone : 610-351-3069

Email: [afsofficepa@ptd.net](mailto:afsofficepa@ptd.net)

Visit our website at [www.amfamilyservices.com](http://www.amfamilyservices.com)

# Boutique For Hope

Join us for the 49th annual Boutique for Hope, formerly known as Boutique at the Rink. The event will be moving to a new location to accommodate its growing needs and will be held this year at St. Luke's SportsPlex, 4636 Crackersport Road, Allentown. The proceeds benefit Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley, St. Luke's Cancer Center, and St. Luke's Hospice.

## OUR SERVICES



### Donate

Bring your gently used items to the SportsPlex May 21st-24th and May 27th-31st. See our website for a full list of items accepted.



### Volunteer

We need volunteers for setup and the sale! We are looking for individuals, school groups, corporate groups, and more!



### Shop

Shop this one of a kind sale from June 11th-June 14th!

[boutiqueforhope.com](http://boutiqueforhope.com)

Contact Us



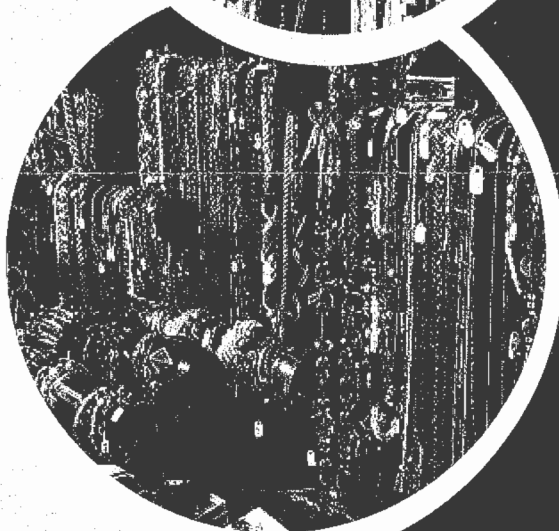
**610-861-7555**



**[info@boutiqueforhope.com](mailto:info@boutiqueforhope.com)**

EST. 1974  
*Boutique*  
FOR HOPE

Supporting cancer patients  
and their loved ones.





## BEAR CREEK CAMP

Greetings!

For over 50 summers youth and family campers have experienced the fun, friendship, and faith formation made possible by time at Bear Creek Camp. We look forward to continuing to build faith in new ways through the power of small group community experiences amongst our 3000 acres!

Research has shown that camp experiences create lasting change in 'horizontal faith' or the *relevance of faith* that campers perceive to their daily lives. This horizontal faith includes: increased self-confidence, more frequent devotional practices, more frequent faith conversations at home, and higher sense of value to belonging to a church community. **Camps and congregations working hand-in-hand to promote the importance of a lifelong faith journey is the key to our shared partnership!**

**Enclosed in this packet are tools for you to utilize in promoting summer camp:**

- Summer Camp Brochures to share with interested campers and families  
*If more brochures are needed, please contact us and we will mail you more!*
- Summer Camp Poster to hang at your church  
*Utilize the space on the bottom left of the poster to write-in contact information for the best person in your congregation (Pastor, Faith Formation Director, Bear Creek Ambassador, etc.) for your community to connect with for information specific to your church such as camperships, and more!*

**Summer Promo Video** – Perfect for Sunday school, youth group, sharing on social media, council meetings, announcement slides, or worship. Connect with campers and families with a highlight reel of the fun to be expected in time spent at camp.

Find this video for streaming or download at [bearcreekcamp.org/congregation-toolkit](http://bearcreekcamp.org/congregation-toolkit).

At Bear Creek Camp, every summer is an opportunity for new adventure and growth.  
Some things to note for Summer 2025:



- Online Registration is easy! – Please encourage your campers to **register online** at [bearcreekcamp.org/registration](http://bearcreekcamp.org/registration).
- If your congregation provides **funds for campers from your congregation** to help offset the cost of camp, we can help by setting up a unique registration code for your congregation. Contact us at [bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org) or call 570-472-3741 for more details.
- Families may have questions about camp that aren't fully answered by the brochure materials or our website, please encourage them to contact the camp office directly either by phone (570-472-3741) or email [bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org).

Thank you for your partnership in the important shared ministry that is Bear Creek Camp. We look forward to seeing you and your youth this summer!

Collin Grooms  
Executive Director  
[collin@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:collin@bearcreekcamp.org)

Kallie Handlong  
Associate Director  
[kallie@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:kallie@bearcreekcamp.org)

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
JOINT VETERANS OF NORTHAMPTON  
& VALLEY HEALTH PARTNERS VETERAN HEALTH PROGRAM**



# **VETERAN'S OUTREACH DAY**

**MAY 3, 2025 FROM 9 AM-1 PM  
HUNGARIAN HALL**

**1300 STEWART STREET | NORTHAMPTON, PA 18067**

**VETERAN NON-PROFITS  
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS  
& LOCAL RESOURCES**

**RESOURCES INCLUDE:**

- VA Healthcare
- VA Benefits
- Homecare
- Employment
- Education & Training
- ...and more!

This event is open to all veterans who served our country  
faithfully, their families, and their caretakers.

**MORE INFO**

Call 610.969.2082 or Email  
[VeteranHealthProgram@valleyhealthpartners.org](mailto:VeteranHealthProgram@valleyhealthpartners.org)

All fun.

No filter.

Imagine it—you and your forever friends. Dreaming up adventures. Making the whole world sparkle with your own personal brand of magic.



## Special Invitation for Girls in Grades K-5

### Girl Scout Troops are forming in the Whitehall-Coplay School District!

Girl Scouts offers every girl and adult a chance to do something amazing. It's a place where girls have endless opportunities to explore, learn, and grow.

For more information, please contact: [klandry-johnston@gsep.org](mailto:klandry-johnston@gsep.org)

Disclaimer: The Whitehall-Coplay School District is not responsible for, and does not endorse, any statement, sentiment or opinion published or expressed in this document. This document is not part of, and has not been distributed as part of, the district's curricular and extracurricular programs.

**girl scouts**  
of eastern  
pennsylvania

Explore Girl Scouts at [www.gsep.org](http://www.gsep.org)

Ready to join a troop? We'll  
get you the Girl Scout  
with your name on it!



## MISSION STATEMENT

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is an open and caring community of Christ's disciples, ministering through worship, education, fellowship, stewardship, and evangelism.

