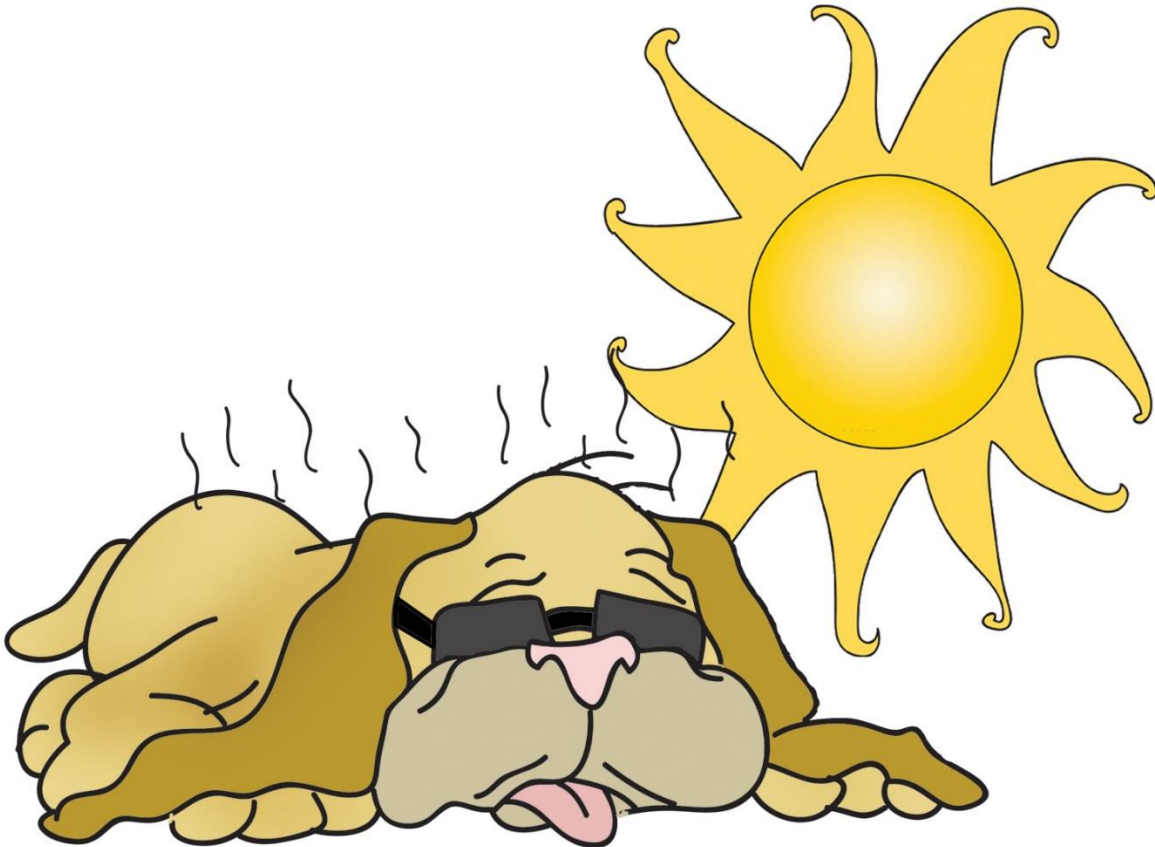


HOLY TRINITY

NEWS

AUGUST 2024

VOLUME 59 NO. 08



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htpastor@ptd.net

August 2024

August 2024							September 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 28	29	30	31	Aug 1 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	2 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	3
4 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	5 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	6 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	7 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	8 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	9 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	10
11 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	12 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	13 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	14 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	15 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	16 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	17
18 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	19 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	20 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	21 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	22 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 7:00pm Camera Club	23 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	24
25 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	26 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	27 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	28 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	29 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	30 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	31

From the Pastor's Desk – August 2024



“The Bread of Life”

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” 26 Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” 28 Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” 29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” 30 So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” 32 Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

(John 6:25-33 NRSV-U)

Every three years, almost always in the month of August, the Revised Common Lectionary gives us five weeks in the 6th chapter of the Gospel of John. The first passage is John's account of Jesus feeding the five thousand, followed by the account of Jesus walking on the Sea of Galilee to meet up with the disciples as they crossed the sea. But then we move into Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse over four successive Sundays. This year the Feeding of the Five Thousand is on July 28th. This August, every Sunday, we have the Bread of Life.

It was six years ago, the summer of 2018, that I determined to use these readings in order to encourage both Holy Trinity and St. Matthew's to consider weekly Communion – celebrating the Blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. By the end of that year, both congregations had approved that change and we started in January of 2019 with weekly Communion.

Imagine being one of the five thousand who were miraculously fed by Jesus.

What an experience! As John tells what happened after the miracle, the people went looking for Jesus, hoping for something else, some additional miracle. Jesus says they were looking for more food, not really another sign of God and of God's coming kingdom. Their sights were earth bound – their hopes could not see beyond their very human hungers. How sad, when Jesus had so much more in store for them.

That's what leads to Jesus talking about the true bread with which God desires to feed everyone. Jesus IS the Bread of Life, far more important even than the manna with which the LORD fed Israel in the wilderness on their way to The Promised Land. As we hear Jesus say, ***“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”***

So very often, we struggle to see beyond our earth-bound, body-bound wants and desires. Surely God does care about us and wants us to have those things that are necessary for life in this world. Jesus cared for the poor. He reached out and included those who had been cast out and marginalized by the culture, even religious culture. He brought healing and restoration to those in need in body, mind, and spirit. He offered God's own welcome that had, so often, been denied to people. In doing so, he made it possible for them to know that God loved them as they were.

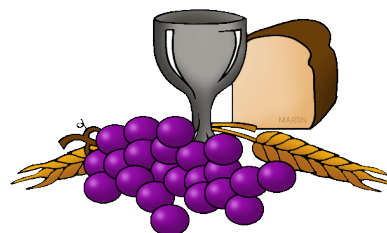
As we gather each Lord's Day to celebrate the Lord's Supper, we proclaim that gracious, saving love of God that includes us, but not just us. In bread and wine, we receive the true Body and Blood of Christ for our forgiveness, life, and salvation, but we are reminded that these gifts are not only for us, but are for the world, for each and every person.

As you join us for worship in these August Sundays, I challenge you to hear Jesus' words as if you've not heard them before. These words challenged those to whom Jesus spoke them in his day and they should challenge us here and now as we hear them in our day. Jesus said, ***“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.”***

May we treasure the gift God has given us in the Lord's Supper and receive it gladly and often.

Blessings to you and peace,

Pastor Mike





AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 01 Sean & Kelly Sosik-Hamor	26 years
August 02 Kim & Jessica Merkel	21 years
August 05 Eric & Tara Berger	13 years
August 14 Shaun & Nicole Wininger	14 years
August 14 Frederick & Nancy Young, Jr.	53 years
August 15 Jan & Karen Sosik	54 years
August 25 Robert & Nancy Treskot	51 years
August 26 Victor & Kathy Jahelka	47 years

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 07	Dustin Allen
August 07	Gail Hoffert
August 07	Gale Husack
August 13	Ashley Kraftician
August 14	Michael Bowman
August 16	Eleanor Scheirer
August 17	Cassidy Merkel
August 24	Stephen Hansut
August 25	Willow Brown
August 26	Shane Allen
August 27	Opal Snyder
August 29	Amanda Ruch
August 31	Patrick Walck

NOTE: If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.

HOLY TRINITY ACTION MINISTRY

Thrift Shop: Tues. 9am-12:30pm

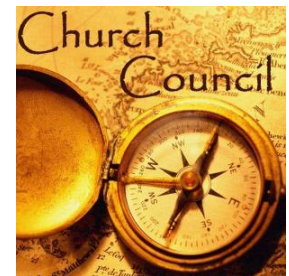


COMMITTEE MEETINGS

August 18 11:30 a.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terry Holland	President
Jon Kistler	Vice-President
Karen Talamantes	Secretary
Larry Arner	Treasurer
Jim Miller	Asst. Treasurer
Steve Berger	
Gerry Dorshimer	
Scott Heinrich	
Krissy Keblish	
Ron Keblish	
Eric Reif	
Ray Talamantes	



FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

Larry Arner	Treasurer
Carol Heffelfinger	Financial Sec.

FINANCE & ATTENDANCE

June Monthly Envelope Offering:	\$ 4,654
June St. Matthews Pastoral Service	\$ 3,300
June Additional Income	\$ 1,358
June Monthly Expenses:	\$ 21,831
Attendance:	
June 02, 2024	42
June 09, 2024 - Knoebels Day	N/A
June 16, 2024	39
June 23, 2024	24
June 30, 2024	42

WORSHIP WITH US

WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10:15 AM

August 4, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Rich Hyer

Ushers: Kelly & Scott Heinrich

Altar Guild: June Andreas & Lizzie Reif

Flowers: IMO Maurice Scheirer – Eleanor Scheirer

Bulletins: Sosik Family – IMO Loved Ones

Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

August 11, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Krissy Keblish

Ushers: Ron Keblish w/Taylor, Terry Holland

Altar Guild: June Andreas & Lizzie Reif

Flowers: IMO Helen Savage – Ron Keblish's Mother

Bulletins:

Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

August 18, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Deb Hansut

Ushers: Loren LaRose & Carol Heffelfinger

Altar Guild: June Andreas & Lizzie Reif

Flowers: Sosik Family – Karen & Jan's Anniversary

Bulletins:

Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

August 25, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Larry Arner

Ushers: Rich & Jeanette Hyer

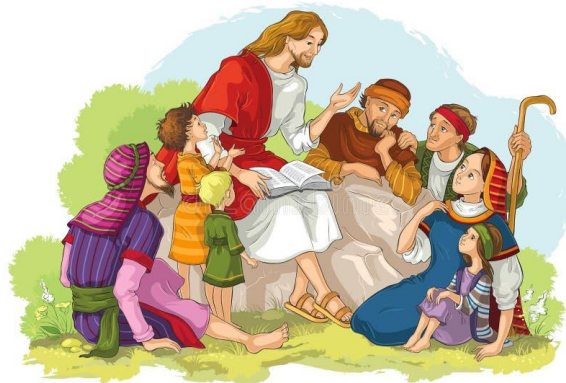
Altar Guild: June Andreas & Lizzie Reif

Flowers: Deb Hansut – IHO Stephen Hansut's B-Day

Bulletins: Steve Berger

Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer



CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Mike will have a children's sermon on the second Sunday of each month.

Bible Study

Mondays 1:30 PM - 3 PM at St. Matthew's
Thursdays 10:30 AM - Noon at Holy Trinity



Visitation MINISTRY **HOME VISITS**

Home visits and shut-in visits are being planned for May. If anyone would like to receive communion from Pastor Mike, please call the office @ 610-826-2524.



9am-1pm

PALMERTON FESTIVAL - 2024

I NOMINATE:

NAME _____

{INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION}

ADDRESS _____

{IF YOU KNOW IT}

PHONE _____

{IF YOU KNOW IT}

SIGNED _____

{Your name}

PALMERTON FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 6, 7 & 8



Festival News Flash!

This year we will be serving molasses tongue cookies, mini cheesecakes, and mint iced tea, along with a new product... "Pineapple Paradise". This is the pineapple stuffing we sold at Easter. We received favorable feedback from this item. We will give it a try! It can be served cold as a dessert or warm as a side to your favorite festival sandwich.

We will bake beginning on Labor Day through that week. There will be a baking signup sheet as well as a stand shift signup sheet in the narthex mid-August.

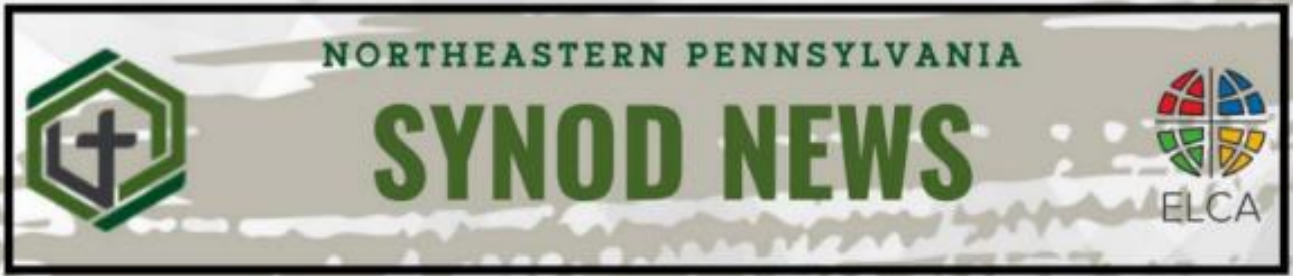
Please save your empty plastic gallon jug containers for our mint iced tea.

Thanks!

Don and Teri

Sweet as Sugar

Holy Trinity's Mint Iced Tea is a favorite at the Community Festival. If you would like to donate a bag of white granulated sugar for our brew, please place it in the sugar donation box in the narthex during the summer months. Thanks!



Walking Together for a Cause: Celebrating 50 Years of ELCA World Hunger

On Saturday, June 22, 18 faithful folk gathered at Conrad Weiser High School stadium in Robesonia, PA, to walk the track as part of a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of ELCA World Hunger. In spite of the high temperatures, a lot of miles were walked and cycled to earn support dollars to feed hungry people. We had representatives from Grace, Shillington, Trinity, Wernersville, Zion, Spies, Zion, Womelsdorf, Grace, Macungie, Trinity,



Robesonia, New Life, New Tripoli as well as Pastor Rachael Dietz and Deacon Travis Woodfield from the Northeastern PA Synod office, and Quentin Bernhard from Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa), who updated us on local legislation and advocacy needs as our state budget is crafted. We will have to await totals from the synod office to determine how much we raised, but it was a blessing to be together with a community of compassionate, caring people to contribute to the work of the ELCA

to see that All Are Fed. The Hunger Ministries in the early planning stages for a choir festival, tentatively for May 2025 as part of the 50th anniversary celebration



Submitted by: Rev. Eileen Smith LeVan Co-Convener of the Hunger Taskforce

SoulShop-Part of a New Ministry to Celebrate 75 years

Submitted by Pastor Paul Metzloff

Reformation Lutheran Church in Reiffton is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. As a part of that celebration, our planning committee wanted to begin a new ministry, in light of the facts that we have always worked towards being active and engaged, and also that several of our active ministries ended during and shortly after the COVID pandemic. In our conversations, we realized that many of the families in our congregation had, in some way, been affected by suicide – far more than we would have guessed. Therefore, we decided to begin a ministry focused on mental health and, in particular, suicide prevention and education.

We chose, as our first major initiative, to provide a one-day faith-based suicide education program called SoulShop. With funding from our congregation, a generous Witness and Service grant from the synod, and additional financial and advertising support from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (the group that often organizes the Out of the Darkness Walks), we sponsored this training on May 4th of 2024. Attended by representatives of the congregation, other local congregations, health care professionals, and members of the community, this training was an opportunity to learn more about the stigma surrounding

suicide, how to help those who might be contemplating taking their -own lives, and faith-oriented ways for openly discussing this often neglected or avoided subject.

Our trainer from SoulShop was himself a survivor of suicide, and guided the conversation appropriately and empathetically. Several of those who attended were themselves touched by suicide, including a family who had lost a son and brother to suicide. The group read scripture together, prayed together, ate together, and practiced

open conversation about mental health in general and suicide in particular. We left with information and resources from both SoulShop and the AFSP, as well as encouragement and



inspiration.

If you or your congregation would be interested in hearing more details about the SoulShop training, feel free to contact us at Reformation at 610-779-0534 or mail@reformationlutheran.org. Also, feel free to go directly to the SoulShop website at soulshopmovement.org. Much helpful information can also be found at the AFSP website at afsp.org/chapter/eastern-pennsylvania

[Click here to view photos of the event.](#) You can find information at godslove.org about the grants available from the Witness and Service Team. Your mission support giving makes these grants possible.

Thank you for your continued support!