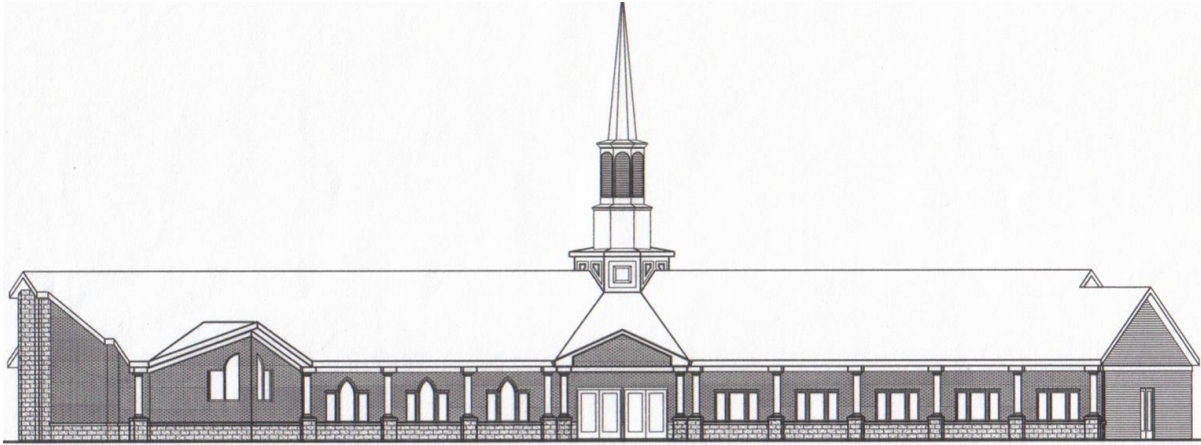


The Jerusalem Times



The monthly newsletter of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Trachsville, Pa.

**Jerusalem Lutheran Church
500 Church Drive
Palmerton, PA 18071-3642**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY 2023



January Church Events

- 1st – Worship Service / Holy Communion**
- 8th – Baptism of Our Lord Service / Holy Communion**
- 15th – Worship Service**
- 22nd – Worship Service**
- 29th – Worship Service**

Church Office: 610-681-5200

E-MAIL: jlc03@ptd.net

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church \(Trachsville\)](https://www.facebook.com/Jerusalem-Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-(Trachsville))

WEBSITE: www.jelctrachsville.weebly.com





The Newsletter

of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

500 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Sunday Worship Services at 10:15 AM

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Melber, Jr. Music Director: Frank Hall IV Sexton: Kelly Scott

Secretary: Stacy Buchiane Treasurer: Melanie Windhorn Financial Secretary: Melanie Windhorn

A Note from the
Pastor

Prayer List

Birthdays &
Anniversaries

WELCA News

Church News

Council Meeting
Minutes

Offering Report

Calendar

Pastor

Rev. Kenneth Melber Jr.



Dear friends in Christ,

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." - Psalm 90:12

It is incredibly difficult for me to believe that, as of January 1, we have spent a whole year together. In my early twenties, I distinctly remember the elders of the church warning me that time would move faster as I became older. Now in my mid-to-late thirties, I realize just how right they were!

Sometimes stages of life happen in the blink of an eye. As I look back on those phases of life, I reflect on the many blessings of those days. I reflect on the regrets of those days and consider things I would have loved to have done differently.

The Psalmist prays to God to teach us to number our days. Note that the Psalmist asks God to TEACH us how to do this. After all, how often do we consider just how quickly life passes us by? And if that's not upsetting enough of a thought, how often do we consider what tomorrow may bring for us? We pray that God help us to make the most of this year, this month, this moment.

Let us not take for granted the many blessings and responsibilities given to us by God.

As you make your new year's resolutions, may I suggest making the best of living each day in God's grace and receiving God's gifts in Word and Sacrament at Sunday worship at 9:00 and perhaps partaking in Sunday School for the children of our congregation during that time as well.

Blessings,
Pastor Ken

LENTEN SERVICES

There is not yet a schedule for Lent. Please see our Facebook page or your church bulletin for when those services will be scheduled.





Please keep all of our family & friends in your prayers.



Prayer List

Sharlee Ahner, Joan Altemose, Earl, Beers, Raymond Beers, Richard Beers, Matthew Cameron, Delores Christman, Shirley Craig, Pat Dwinell, Katie Easton, Dale Eckley, Kyle Frable, Roberta Heffley, Pete Horbowyj, Billie Jo Moyer, Matt Nothstein, Roseanna Polizzi, Chuck Schretzman, Patricia Shook, Earl Smale, Renee Tokarczyk, Brandie Uliana, Dave Wentz, and Hildegard Wheeler.

Residents of a Nursing Home, Personal Care Home, or Hospital

Gurney Borger – Gracedale Nursing Home
 Helen Christman – The Palmerton
 George Green – Brookmont Health Care Center
 Gladys Green – Getz Personal Care Home
 Edwin Strohl – Mahoning Valley Nursing Home

Serving in the Armed Forces

Army – Danny Carden, Gerald Eckhart, and Timothy Rodgers
Air Force - Staff Sgt. Kerry Heiney and Master Sgt. April Lorah
Navy - Sarah McCready, Tyler Silliman, and Jeremy Zellers
National Guard Army - Sean Hall
Army Reserves - William L. Hittner and Theodoric Hittner
Marines - Joshua Gillen



If you have an address to provide for the people that are serving in the military so that the congregation may correspond with them, please let the office know.

Birthdays

- 2nd **Mary Hahn**
- 4th **Kermit George**
- 5th **Nevin George**
- 6th **Braidyn Franya**
- 7th **Verna Borger**
- 9th **Patricia Kleppinger, Faith Szena**
- 10th **Joshua Greene, Joseph Hittner, Donna McGarry**
- 11th **Ryan Schoch**
- 12th **Alexis Bartholomew, Charles Horinko, Michelle Horinko**
- 13th **Thomas Creed, Joshua Turner**
- 15th **Travis Fedor, David Gouger**
- 18th **Emily Borger, Kristin Butz**
- 19th **Lynn Knappenberger, Tracy Strohl**
- 21st **Nancy Green**
- 23rd **Leah Haas, Alexa Jesberger**
- 24th **Miranda Wilkins**
- 25th **Lorianne Carden, William Repsher Jr.**
- 28th **Kimberly Bowman, Elizabeth Kuczma**
- 30th **Harper George, June Hedrick**



The birth dates and anniversary dates are what we have on file. If they are incorrect, please contact the office.



- 12th – **Michael & Eileen Long**
- 30th – **Gregory & Gail Beers**

January 2023

WELCA's December meeting included a Christmas Luncheon, held at Bert's Steakhouse in Palmerton. The Thanksgiving Filling Sale made over 200 lbs. of filling. WELCA also made Cheer boxes for members of the congregation who are ill or not able to attend church.

It was decided to maintain the same officers for WELCA except for Secretary. Jackie Brotzman has taken over as Secretary for Kit Hall. Shirley Craig will continue to serve as President, Pat Dwinell as Vice President, Jackie Brotzman as Secretary and Sharlee Ahner as Treasurer.

A Meat Pie Sale is designated for January. We are taking meat pie orders until December 30th. The cost is \$13 for chicken, pork, and chicken/pork mix and \$15 for beef. January 12 we will be cooking the meat at 7:00 AM. Then at 10:00 AM the meat is to be cut up. On Jan. 16 & 17th starting at 7:00 AM meat pies will be made. Help is needed for all days. Please come out and join the fun!

WELCA meets at the church the first Monday of the month at 12:30 PM. New members are always welcome!



MEAT PIE SALE 2023

**If you ordered meat pies,
don't forget pick-up will be
January 16 or 17, 2023
from 12:00 to 2:00 PM**

**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**

Help will be needed on Thursday, January 12th starting at 7:00 AM to cook the meat for the meat pies. And, at 10:00 AM to cut the meat.

We will also need help on Monday, January 16th and Tuesday, January 17th to help make and package the meat pies.

January Church News



Important dates of the month to remember:

- 1st – Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
- 2nd – WELCA Meeting at 12:30 PM
- 8th – Baptism of Our Lord Service with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
- 12th – Meat Preparation for Meat Pie Sale at 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM
(see WELCA article)
- 15th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM
- 16th – Make Meat Pies at 7:00 AM; Pick-up Meat Pies from 12:00 to 2:00 PM
- 17th – Make Meat Pies at 7:00 AM; Pick-up Meat Pies from 12:00 to 2:00 PM
- 19th – Council Meeting at 7:00 PM
- 22nd – Worship Service at 9:00 AM
- 29th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM

Flower & Bulletin Sponsors

The flower chart for 2023 has been posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

If you would like to reserve altar flowers for a Sunday, sign the flower chart or call the office at 610-681-5200.

Christmas Eve 2022



The Christmas Eve service for 2022 was held at both 3:00 PM and 5:30 PM. A total of 150 people attended the two services. The sanctuary was beautifully decorated with Christmas trees, nativity sets, candles, wreaths, and poinsettias.

Holy communion was given during both services. There were hymns sung during both services and the 5:30 service also included a solo of "Mary Did You Know" beautifully sung by Resa Hall.

Book Folding Seminar

Please join us for a book folding seminar held here at our church on

Saturday, February 11th

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM



The cost is \$5.00 for supplies. If you are interested in learning the art of book folding, a sign-up sheet is available in the narthex!

Questions can be directed to Carol O'Brien. Hope to see you!



Shirley Craig wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers, and best wishes during her time of recovery.

**WE JUST WANT TO SAY...
THANK YOU!**

Thank you to Connie Strohl for all of your hard work as our Church Treasurer! We will miss you and wish only the best for you on your new path. God bless you!



Welcome our new Church Sexton:
Kelly Scott we are excited to have you as part of our Church staff!

2023 Offering Envelopes

New offering envelopes are available in the hallway. If you do not see your envelopes, please write your name and information onto the sheet on the table so we can make sure to get you envelopes.

2022 Giving Statements

The sign-up sheet for the 2022 Offering Statements is located in the hallway. Statements will not be mailed. Once the statements are ready, they will be placed on the table in the narthex.

New Council Members

The installation of the new Council members will take place on Sunday, January 22nd.

2022 Congregational Report

All reports for 2022 must be submitted by the end of the third week of January. A date will be announced shortly for the Congregational Meeting to discuss the Congregational Report.



Recent Baptisms:



Logan Marie Blose daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Blose was baptized on October 23, 2022.

Wyatt Colt Sherer son of Justin and Raven Sherer was baptized on December 11, 2022.

We welcome Logan and Wyatt into the "Body of Christ."

Church Council Members



Robert Ziegenfus – President
Richard Beers – Vice President
Carol O'Brien – Secretary
Jackie Brotzman
Delbert Christman
Sandy Christman

Pearl Eckhart
Frank Hall III
Ricky Moyer
Earl Smale
Rolf Windhorn

Council Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022

Attendance: Richard Beers, Jackie Brotzman, Sandy Christman, Pearl Eckhart, Ricky Moyer, Carol O'Brien, Bobby Ziegenfus, Rolf Windhorn, and Pastor Melber. Others in attendance were Melanie Windhorn,

Absent: Earl Smale, Connie Strohl, Delbert Christman and Frank Hall

Call to Order by Council President, Bobby Ziegenfus

Devotions & Prayers - Pastor Melber

Open Forum – No discussion

Correspondence - None

Secretary's Report

- Jackie Brotzman made a motion to accept this report. Pearl Eckhart seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Motion Required)

- Ricky Moyer made a motion to approve this report. Richard Beers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report (Motion Required)

- Carol O'Brien made a motion to accept this report. Rolf Windhorn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report (Motion required ONLY for mileage)

- Carol O'Brien made a motion to approve the Pastor's mileage. Jackie Brotzman seconded motion. The motion carried.
- Ricky Moyer made a motion to accept the five new people noted by the Pastor to join the church. Richard Beers seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- The family of June Strohl would like to make a specific donation to the church.
- Pastor is interested in starting an Altar Guild and will have Stacy put out a sign-up sheet.
- He is interested in weekly Eucharistic Ministers starting January 1, 2023.
- Pastor noted that we will need a person to replace Earl Smale on the Parish committee. Pearl Eckhart has volunteered to fill his vacancy.
- Pastor noted he will be away on November 20, Christ the King Sunday. There will be no communion held on that day.

Stewards for November:

Ushers: Rolf Windhorn & Ricky Moyer

Chalice Bearers:

Communion Sunday: November 5 – All Saints Sunday

Building Finance Steward: Rolf & Melanie Windhorn

Council devotions: Rolf Windhorn

Personnel Concerns –

- Sexton/Cleaning schedule will be studied and broke down to accommodate volunteers.

Ongoing and Unfinished Business for October

- Phone at Luther Hall was not disconnected. Ricky Moyer made a motion to have the phone at Luther Hall disconnected and to give Melanie permission to contact the phone company. Carol O'Brien seconded it. The motion carried.
- Finance committee would like some people from council to meet with the insurance agent to review policies. Rolf & Melanie Windhorn, Ricky Moyer, Richard Beers, Delbert Christman, Bobby Ziegenfus and Pastor will sit on the committee. Melanie will arrange a date and set up the meeting with the team.
- Electric bill went from 12 kwh to 22 kwh.
- At a special meeting** held on October 30, Rolf Windhorn presented a spreadsheet depicting multiple providers and their cost per kwh. Carol O'Brien made a motion giving Rolf the authority to cancel our current provider and go back to PPL

immediately. Jackie Brotzman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Further discussion will be held to hear council members views on other providers after they have had a chance to peruse the spreadsheet further.

- **At a special meeting held** on Sunday, November 6, Ricky Moyer made a motion to go with Rolf Windhorn's recommendation to change electric providers to AEP energy at 0.125 kwh for the church and to go with Direct Energy at .011 kwh for Luther Hall. Richard Beers seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Ricky Moyer made a motion for Melanie Windhorn to transact business at First Northern Bank. Richard Beers seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- We have collected \$1,358 for Derek Szena. Pastor will attempt to make a visit to deliver the funds.
- Finance noted church cleaning issues. Cleaning under the pews with the vacuum is difficult. They suggested purchasing a robotic vacuum that could be programmed to clean under the pews to make the job easier and less time consuming. They also suggested a handheld vacuum to clean the pews. Sandy Christman suggested that certain cleaning jobs could be done once a month. She noted that she called various cleaning services but found them to be expensive or out of our area. Stacy was approached to take on the cleaning position in addition to her clerical obligations, however, she is not interested. Sandy Christman, Shirley Craig, Connie & Earl Smale will prioritize sexton duties. Sandy Christman will be volunteering to clean on Monday at 9:00 and is looking for assistance
- Pastor will make an announcement to start an altar guild.

New Business

- Picnic tables need to be put away at the grove and doors need to be put back on the bandstand. Tuesday, October 25 at 5:00
- Basement job has been completed, but lots of dust needs to be cleaned up.
- Need an outlet outside to plug in a generator if the power goes out.
- We will be discussing the policy for Luther Hall.
- The question of not seeing Thrivent account balances was brought up. Melanie Windhorn will show a balance sheet with Thrivent accounts as Quick books get straightened out. She currently has a statement for \$350,000 but not sure on what account it is. Quarterly reports on Thrivent come to church to Connie Strohl.

Committee Reports:

- **Finance** – Carol made a motion to accept the proposed budget which was explained by Pastor Melber. Sandy Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Richard Beers questioned the status of the Douglas Youngkin estate donation. Carol O'Brien contacted Attorney Martino's office and learned that they are waiting for the acceptance letter from the IRS. When it arrives, the estate will be settled, and the estate executor will be notified. At that point the executor will disperse the funds.
- **Music & Worship** – There will be no Thanksgiving eve service.
- **Education** – see pastors report
- **Outreach** – Sandy Christman stated that no one came to the last meeting. They will continue to send out cards. There has been no future meeting scheduled.
- **Fellowship** – Before current goodies run out for after worship social time, we will take up a good will collection to replenish our stock.
- **Building & Maintenance** – see earlier notes
- **Evangelism** –
- **WELCA** – The ladies will be doing their annual filling sale. They recently held the basket social and Persian donut sale. All went well.
- **Mutual ministry** –

New Business – Richard Beers made motion to hire Bruce George for 22-23 snow removal/cindering process. Jackie Brotzman seconded the motion.

Other Items for the good of the church - None

Next Meeting – November 17, 2022

Adjournment

Ricky Moyer made a motion to adjourn. Pearl Eckhart seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. O'Brien

Church Council Secretary

October 2022 OFFERING REPORT by Melanie Windhorn

GENERAL OPERATING OFFERING				BUILDING FUND
DATE	Attendance	Envelope, Initial, Plate Sunday School, Holidays & Flowers	Other	Building Maintenance Children's Envelope
10/2/22	48	\$1,641.00	\$73.00	\$457.00
10/89/22	54	\$1,507.00	\$20.00	\$206.00
10/16/22	53	\$1,858.00	\$0.00	\$54.00
10/23/22	89	\$1,617.00	\$1,000.00	\$86.00
10/30/22	56	\$1,463.00	\$0.00	\$393.00
Thrivent Direct Deposit				
		\$8,086.00	\$1,093.00	\$1,196.00


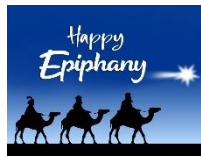

General Other:

Sunday School:

10/2 Word In Season		\$3.00		
Donation for Derek Szena		\$70.00		
10/9 Donation for Derek Szena		\$20.00		
10/23 Donation from John & Kathleen				
Spirk		\$1,000.00		

Total Sunday Attendance YTD:	2,358
Average Sunday Attendance YTD:	54
Envelope & Plate YTD:	\$73,791.00
General Offering Other YTD:	\$7,086.52
Building YTD:	\$10,525.00

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
1 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion – 9:00 AM	2 WELCA Meeting – 12:30 PM	3	4	5	6 	7 
8 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion – 9:00 AM	9	10	11	12 Cook Meat – 7:00 AM Cut Meat – 10:00 AM (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)	13	14
15 Worship Service – 9:00 AM	16 Make Meat Pies – 7:00 AM (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED) Pick-up Meat Pies – 12:00 to 2:00 PM	17 Make Meat Pies – 7:00 AM (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED) Pick-up Meat Pies – 12:00 to 2:00 PM	18	19 Council Meeting – 7:00 PM	20	21
22 Worship Service – 9:00 AM Installation of new Council members	23	24 Newsletter articles due for February	25	26	27	28
29 Worship Service – 9:00 AM	30	31				

For pastoral service contact
Rev. Kenneth Melber Jr. at:
 Home: 484-629-2812
 Church office: 610-681-5200
 Email: pastorken86@gmail.com