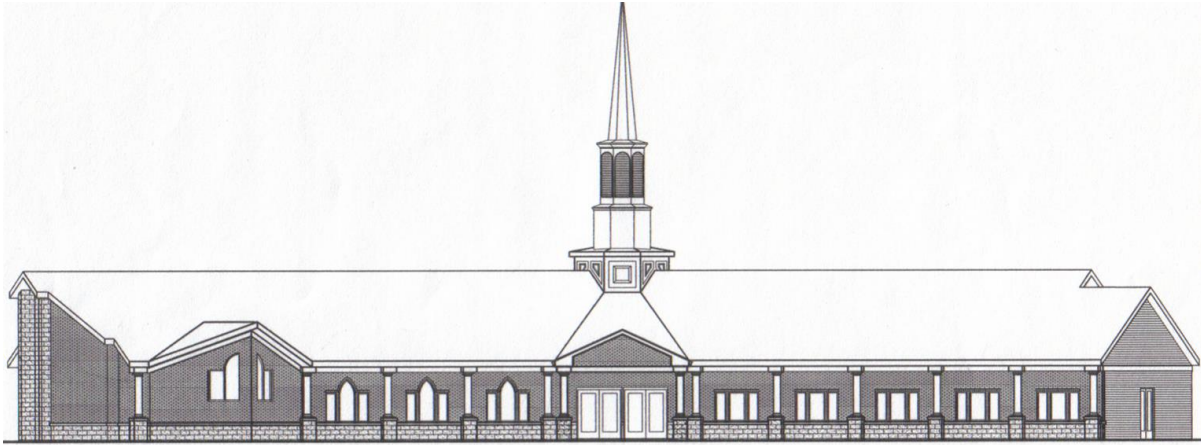


# *The Jerusalem Times*



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

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**March 2023**



## **March Church Events**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Lenten Service  
5<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service / Holy Communion  
12<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service  
15<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Service  
19<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service  
26<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service  
29<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Service**

**Church Office: 610-681-5200**

**E-MAIL: [jlc03@ptd.net](mailto:jlc03@ptd.net)**

**FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church \(Trachsville\)](https://facebook.com/Jerusalem%20Evangelical%20Lutheran%20Church%20(Trachsville))**

**WEBSITE: [www.jelctrachville.weebly.com](http://www.jelctrachville.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

Pastor Hours: Tuesday 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 AM

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

Secretary: Stacy Buchiane Treasurer: Melanie Windhorn Financial Secretary: Carol O'Brien

A Note from the  
Pastor

Prayer List

Birthdays &  
Anniversaries

WELCA News

Church News

Council Meeting  
Minutes

Offering Report

Calendar



## FROM THE PASTOR

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

Part of the religious practice of the church of my childhood was the infamous “Lenten fast.” It usually took on the form of “giving up \_\_\_\_\_ for Lent.” Some people give up chocolate. Some people give up sweets. When I was a teenager, I gave up caffeine for 46 days (never again!)

In reflecting on those years, I realize that none of those practices really brought me closer to God. I am certainly not harping on anyone for whom that practice does bring a spiritual benefit. However, this year I am beginning to think about the Lenten season as a way of deepening my relationship with God and with others.

As an example, I am taking every morning of the Lenten season to write a thank you note each day to one of the many people (way more than 40) who bless me by their presence. Some of them are church members, some of them are friends, some of them are family. Not only does it provide the benefit to the person receiving the note that their work is meaningful, but it also helps me to stop and appreciate that person. It also helps to deepen my spiritual health by expressing the love of Christ to another.

Whatever your “Lenten fast” may bring about this year, my prayer is that it brings you closer to God and to your neighbors.

Lenten blessings,  
Pastor Ken

### CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION – SAVE THE DATE

All individuals in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or higher who wish to begin or continue Confirmation classes are required to attend a Confirmation orientation on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-12:30pm at St. John’s. First and second year confirmands should attend with a parent/guardian to help fill out the registration paperwork. We will be discussing the class structure and choosing dates and a meeting place to meet for the class. **Absolutely no registrations will be accepted after August 20,** so please be sure to put this date on your calendar.

### PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS CHANGE

In order to accommodate the visitation needs of the parish, Pastor Ken will no longer be holding normal office hours at Jerusalem effective March 31. This does not change Pastor’s availability as he will be able to meet with anyone who requests an appointment throughout the week (on Tuesdays and other days).



***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, Dale Eckley, Kyle Frable, Roberta Heffley, Pete Horbowyj, Billie Jo Moyer, Matt Nothstein, Roseanna Polizzi, Chuck Schretzman, Patricia Shook, Richard Shook, Earl Smale, Jeanette Smith, 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  
 Gladys Green – Getz Personal Care Home  
 Edwin Strohl – Mahoning Valley Nursing & Rehab Center

**Serving in the Armed Forces**

**Army** – Danny Carden, Gerald Eckhart, and Timothy Rodgers  
**Air Force** - Staff Sgt. Kerry Heiney  
**Navy** - Sarah McCready, Noah Sensinger, Tyler Silliman, and Jeremy Zellers  
**National Guard Army** - Sean Hall  
**Army Reserves** - William L. Hittner and Theodoric Hittner



*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**


- 3<sup>rd</sup> Theresa Hall, Daniel Zacharias
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tammy George
- 5<sup>th</sup> Theodoric Hittner, Linda Zacharias
- 6<sup>th</sup> Raymond Berger Jr., Nathan George
- 8<sup>th</sup> Emily George
- 9<sup>th</sup> Steven Lounsbury
- 10<sup>th</sup> Larry Beers, Thomas Fritz, Olivia Lounsbury, Kimberly Ottinger, Robert Ziegenfus
- 11<sup>th</sup> Wanda George
- 12<sup>th</sup> Tracy Creed, Ryan Hook
- 14<sup>th</sup> April Evans
- 15<sup>th</sup> Lynette Frantz, Pamela Hendleman
- 16<sup>th</sup> Lynn Rudelitch
- 18<sup>th</sup> Rodney Meinhart, Mikayla Wilkins
- 21<sup>st</sup> Xavior Carden, Scott Long
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Jenna Creed, Megan Evans, Nathan Frantz, Althea Haydt, Megan McGarry
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Eric Carden, Kelsey Eaton, Robert Farber
- 24<sup>th</sup> Samuel Kuehner
- 25<sup>th</sup> Megan Frantz, Rebecca Frantz, Amy Sander, William Strohl
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jacqueline Brotzman
- 28<sup>th</sup> Nicole Kuehner, Goldie Wiese
- 29<sup>th</sup> Donald Szena
- 31<sup>st</sup> James DeRose Jr.



March

BIRTHDAYS

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



Wedding Anniversary

25<sup>th</sup> – Joel & Rhonda Beers

WELCA met in February and planned some upcoming events. A Spring Basket Social will be held March 11 from 9 AM to 2 PM. Basket donations from the congregation will be appreciated. WELCA members will be making the soups for the upcoming mid-week Lenten services.

Hats and Mittens from the Christmas Mitten Tree have been donated.

A Ham and Dandelion Dinner was discussed at February's meeting. It was decided to make it a Take-Out Only Dinner on April 22. This will include ham, potatoes, dandelion with bacon dressing, applesauce, vegetable, bread & butter, and dessert. Tickets may be purchased for \$15 per dinner until the deadline of April 9 by calling the church. Dinners can be picked up from 4 to 6 PM on April 22.

WELCA's next meeting will be held on Monday, March 6 at 12:30 PM.

**New members are always welcome!**



## **Annual Spring Basket Social**

**March 11<sup>th</sup>: 9 AM to 2 PM**

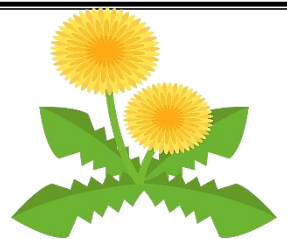
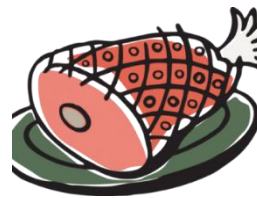
**Drawing begins at 2 PM**

**Theme Baskets & Raffle**

**BBQ, Homemade Soups, Chow Chow, etc. and  
a Baked Goods sale!**

**3 baskets will have \$25 hidden among the  
contents!**

**Come for the food and try your luck!**



## **Ham & Dandelion Dinner**

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**Take Out Only!**

**Tickets: \$15 - Adults**

**Tickets must be pre-ordered!**

**To order call 610-681-5200,  
610-826-7625, or 610-681-5020**

**The last day to order is April 9<sup>th</sup>!**



## **Cemetery Clean-Up**

**Monday, April 3 at 6:00 PM**

**(Weather permitting)**

**Please remove any items you wish to keep before this date.**

**Anyone who would like to help is welcome!**

## **Flower & Bulletin Sponsors**

**5<sup>th</sup> - George & Carol O'Brien**

**12<sup>th</sup> - Joan Greene**

**19<sup>th</sup> - Wanda George**

**26<sup>th</sup> - Jackie Brotzman**



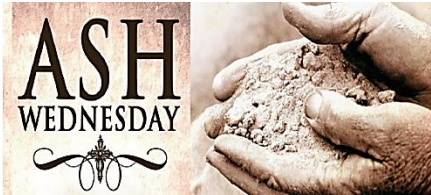
**If you would like to reserve altar flowers, sign the  
flower chart or call the office at 610-681-5200.**



# March Church News

## Important dates of the month to remember:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Lenten Service at JELC: fellowship at 6:00 PM, worship at 7:00 PM
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
- 6<sup>th</sup> – WELCA Meeting at 12:30 PM
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Service at St. John's: fellowship at 6:00 PM, worship at 7:00 PM
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at 9:00 AM
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Service at JELC: fellowship at 6:00 PM, worship at 7:00 PM
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting at 7:00 PM
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at 9:00 AM
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Lenten Service at St. John's: fellowship at 6:00 PM, worship at 7:00 PM
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Worship Service at 9:00 AM
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Service at JELC: fellowship at 6:00 PM, worship at 7:00 PM



### Ash Wednesday Service

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM**

David	
1 Chronicles 21:1-2, 7-19, 26-27	

### Easter Flower Sale



Orders Due:

March 19, 2023

You have a choice of:

Hyacinths at \$8

Tulips at \$8

Lilies at \$10



### Sunday School Picnic Raffle

Looking for raffle prize donations!

This year's Sunday School Picnic will be held August 5<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who would like to donate a prize for the raffle, please contact Sharlee Ahner at 610-681-5020 as soon as possible. Tickets will be printed soon, so don't wait.

# Lent



## Lenten Services

**Lenten mid-week services begin with fellowship at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM.**

Date	Place	Lessons
March 1	JELC	2 Chronicles 14:1-7, 16:1-13
March 8	St. John's	2 Chronicles 17:1-6; 18:1-3; 19:1-7
March 15	JELC	2 Chronicles 24:1-4, 17-25
March 22	St. John's	2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 15b-21
March 29	JELC	2 Chronicles 34:1-3; 35:20-27

## HELP WANTED

### Ham & Dandelion Dinner

Help will be needed for this take-out dinner; in the kitchen, packaging, and delivering to people's cars. Anyone interested, please speak to Shirley Craig.

### Lectors

If you would like to help with the Sunday readings, a sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside the office.

Worship with Us

All Are Welcome



# Church Council Members



Ricky Moyer – President  
Robert Ziegenfus – Vice President  
Carol O'Brien – Secretary

Jackie Brotzman  
Delbert Christman  
Sandy Christman  
Pearl Eckhart

Wanda George  
Frank Hall III  
Donna McGarry  
Rolf Windhorn

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## Council Meeting Minutes from January 19, 2023

**Attendance:** Jackie Brotzman, Sandy Christman, Pearl Eckhart, Ricky Moyer, Carol O'Brien, Delbert Christman, Wanda George, and Pastor Melber. Others in attendance were Melanie Windhorn, Treasurer

**Absent:** Bobby Ziegenfus, Frank Hall, and Rolf Windhorn

**Visitors:** Earl & Connie Smale and Donna McGarry

**Call to Order by Secretary,** Carol O'Brien (in the absence of President & Vice President)

**Devotions & Prayers:** Shared by Jackie Brotzman

### Reorganization

- Nominations for President were opened: Ricky Moyer and Sandy Christman were both nominated. Nominations were closed and a paper vote was taken. New President is Ricky Moyer and Sandy Christman accepted Vice President. Carol O'Brien was nominated as Secretary. After the meeting Sandy stepped down and Bobby Ziegenfus accepted the position as Vice President.

### Open Forum

- Connie Smale noted she and Shirley Craig discussed advertising with a flyer in the Times News for upcoming events in the life of our church. Items to be advertised were the basket social, Sunday School picnic, Persian Donut sale, Ham & Dandelion take out meal, etc. She was seeking approval from the council.
- Delbert Christman made a motion to approve the add. Carol O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Earl talked about the difficulty he had replacing the filters for the furnace handler. Rolf will be in contact with George's again to see what can be done.

### Correspondence – Melanie reported the following items:

- Alarm monitoring system currently has listed Ivy Hagenbach, Richard Beers, Bobby Ziegenfus and Ricky Moyer. To update, we will remove Ivy from the list and keep the other guys on. The annual cost for the service is \$175. It was also decided to have the emergency number posted in the kitchen by the phone in case of a false alarm.
- When going through the files Melanie came across a youth group account with \$647.11. She requested guidance on what to do with it. Carol O'Brien made a motion to deposit it into general account. Delbert Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Jackie Brotzman made motion to change our insurance deductible to \$2,500 per the recommendation of our insurance man. Delbert seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- We received a request for a donation to Family Promise. Carol O'Brien made a motion to send them \$100. Sandy Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- We received a request for a donation to Towamensing Township Fire Dept. Sandy Christman made a motion to donate \$150. Delbert Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### Secretary's Report

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

### Treasurer's Report (Motion Required)

- Pearl Eckhart made a motion to approve this report. Wanda George seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### Financial Secretary's Report (Motion Required)

- Carol O'Brien made a motion to accept this report. Pearl Eckhart 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. Delbert Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Carol O'Brien made a motion to share mid-week Lenten services with St. John's to be held in each church every other week. Sandy Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Church secretary, Stacy Buchaine had a very positive 90-day evaluation. Delbert Christman made a motion to increase her pay rate to \$15/hr., retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Carol O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- It was noted that several people who attended the 3:00 Christmas Eve serviced missed the candle lighting and singing Silent Night. It will be added this year.
- Council also thanked Pastor Melber for providing the music at the 3:00 Christmas Eve service in addition to preaching and leading worship!!!!
- Pastor noted that our answering machine should be updated. Melanie Windhorn also suggested that we upgrade our office phone and add another line and phone to our office.
- Pastor's report in November requested council to provide an answer to his issue on office hours vs. visitations. Wanda George made a motion to have Pastor's office hours to be by APPOINTMENT ONLY so he can make meaningful and frequent visits to those who need them. Pastor will begin this new schedule after Easter. Pearl Eckhart seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Easter Services will be flipped from last year. This year, St. John's will be holding the Ash Wednesday Service at their church. We will be responsible for services during Holy week. Stay tuned for worship times.
- Pastor would like to have a list of Committee members for our next meeting.

### **February:**

**Ushers:** Sandy Christman & Rolf Windhorn

**Chalice Bearers:** Donna McGarry

**Communion Sunday:** February 5<sup>th</sup>

**Building Finance Steward:**

Rolf/Melanie Windhorn

**Council devotions:** Sandy Christman

### **March:**

**Ushers:** Delbert Christman & Ricky Moyer

**Chalice Bearers:** Bobby Zeigenfus

**Communion Sunday:** March 5<sup>th</sup>

**Building Finance Steward:**

Rolf/Melanie Windhorn

**Council devotions:** Delbert Christman

## **Personnel Concerns - None**

## **Ongoing and Unfinished Business for February**

- Council appointed Wanda George to fill Richard Beers' position. Donna McGarry will need to be nominated to fill Earl Smale's position at the Congregational meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Wanda George made a motion to give Connie Strohl a thank you gift of \$200 upon her resignation as Financial Secretary over the last 10 years. Delbert Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Carol O'Brien accepted the position of Financial Secretary. Pearl Eckhart made a motion to accept Carol in that position. The motion was seconded by Jackie Brotzman. The motion carried.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Finance**

- Items were covered under correspondence.

### **Music & Worship**

- It has been noted that many parishioners would like to have some livelier closing hymns.

### **Christian Education**

- Sunday School is continuing with regular attendance.
- Carol O'Brien has agreed to be the liaison with our friends at St. John's to hold VBS. Their idea was to hold it here in the grove/Luther Hall this summer and council was excited to act on their idea.

### **Outreach**

- A meeting was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>. They sent 23 cards to shut ins. No meeting is currently scheduled.

### **Fellowship**

- Sandy Christman continues to do a great job with after worship refreshments.

### **Building & Maintenance –**

- Ricky Moyer noted that he swept the basement.
- Rolf replaced a light bulb in the kitchen.
- He also marked receptacles/breakers so it would be easier to see where tripped breaker.
- Rolf is planning to start grove meeting/discussions next month. The first meeting will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Evangelism**

- Delbert Christman suggested that members come up with some ideas to get younger people to join our church/activities.

### **WELCA**

- Did meat pies on Monday Jan 16<sup>th</sup> and made over 260 pies.
- No events will be held in February.
- Basket social will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Ham & dandelion dinner will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will be take-out only.
- Next meeting will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to attend!!!

### **Mutual ministry - No report**

### **New Business – None**

### **Other Items for the good of the church**

- Pearl Eckhart noted that when no one is signed up for worship flowers, the order should be cancelled.
- Melanie has request that bills for flowers be submitted to her.
- Sandy Christman noted that four (4) small tables will be purchased to hold the communion trays. Funds will come from the Memorial Fund in memory of June Strohl & Delbert Christman.

### **Next Meeting – March 16, 2023**

### **Adjournment**

- Carol O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Delbert Christman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,

*Carol L. O'Brien*

Church Council Secretary



## January 2022 OFFERING REPORT by Melanie Windhorn

GENERAL OPERATING OFFERING				BUILDING FUND
DATE	Attendance	Envelope, Initial, Plate Sunday School	Other	Building Maintenance Children's Envelope
1/2/22	67	\$2,247.00	\$5.00	\$426.00
1/9/22	Cancelled due to inclement weather			
1/16/22	43	\$2,071.00	\$0.00	\$142.00
1/23/22	48	\$1,131.00	\$0.00	\$51.00
1/30/22	45	\$1,342.00	\$0.00	\$251.00
		\$6,791.00	\$5.00	\$870.00

**General Other:**

1/2 Word in Season	\$5.00

**Sunday School:**

Total Sunday Attendance YTD:	203
Average Sunday Attendance YTD:	40.6
Envelope & Plate YTD:	\$6,791.00
General Offering Other YTD:	\$5.00
Building YTD:	\$870.00

## January 2023 OFFERING REPORT by Carol O'Brien

GENERAL OPERATING OFFERING				BUILDING FUND
DATE	Attendance	Envelope, Initial, Plate Sunday School, Holidays &	Other	Building Maintenance Children's Envelope
1/1/23	50	\$6,568.00	\$0.00	\$335.00
1/8/23	68	\$1,894.00	\$0.00	\$267.00
1/15/23	66	\$2,101.00	\$500.00	\$7.00
1/22/23	57	\$1,461.00	\$264.00	\$156.00
1/29/23	60	\$1,587.00	\$0.00	\$183.00
Thrivent Direct Deposit				
		\$13,611.00	\$764.00	\$948.00

**General Other:**

1/15/2023 Special Offering for Firefighter Kyle Frable	\$500.00
1/22/23 Word In Season	\$3.00
1/22/23 Special Offering for Firefighter Kyle Frable	\$261.00

**Sunday School:**

Total Sunday Attendance YTD:	301
Average Sunday Attendance YTD:	60
Envelope & Plate YTD:	\$13,611.00
General Offering Other YTD:	\$764.00
Building YTD:	\$948.00

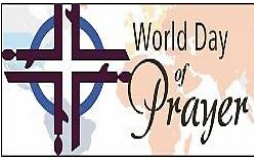






# Fun for the Kids!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Color the picture.



# MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Lenten Service at JELC: Fellowship – 6:00 PM Worship – 7:00 PM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion – 9:00 AM Baptisms	<b>6</b> WELCA Meeting – 12:30 PM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Lenten Service at St. John's: Fellowship – 6:00 PM Worship – 7:00 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Set-up for Basket Social 	<b>11</b> Spring Basket Social – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM 
<b>12</b> Worship Service – 9:00 AM 	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Lenten Service at JELC: Fellowship – 6:00 PM Worship – 7:00 PM	<b>16</b> Council Meeting – 7:00 PM	<b>17</b> Happy St. Patrick Day 	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Worship Service – 9:00 AM Baptism  Flower orders due		<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Lenten Service at St. John's: Fellowship – 6:00 PM Worship – 7:00 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Worship Service – 9:00 AM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Lenten Service at JELC: Fellowship – 6:00 PM Worship – 7:00 PM	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

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