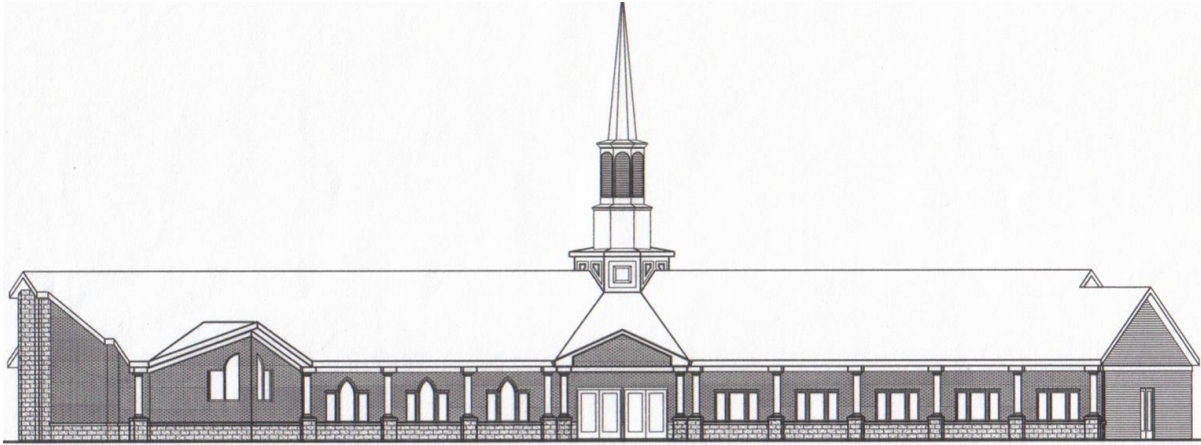


The Jerusalem Times



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

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

**Non-Profit Organization
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NOVEMBER 2023

November Church Events

- 5th – All Saints Service w/ Holy Communion**
- 5th – Thanksgiving Filling Orders Due**
- 12th – Worship Service w/ WELCA Thank Offering**
- 19th – Christ the King Service**
- 21st – Filling Pick Up 10 AM – 1 PM**
- 23rd – Thanksgiving Day (OFFICE CLOSED)**
- 26th – First Sunday of Advent Service**

Church Office: 610-681-5200

E-MAIL: jlc03@ptd.net

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church \(Trachsville\)](https://facebook.com/Jerusalem%20Evangelical%20Lutheran%20Church%20(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 9:00 AM

Pastor: Kenneth Melber, Jr Music Director: Frank Hall IV Sexton: Stacy Buchiane

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

A Note from the
Pastor

Prayer List

Birthdays &
Anniversaries

WELCA News

Announcements

Council Meeting
Minutes

Offering Report

Calendar



Dear Friends in Christ,

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted.” -Isaiah 12:4

As we come into November, I am mindful of one of my favorite family holidays – Thanksgiving. It is a day that was always a large celebration in my home growing up as a kid. Family and friends. Football. More food than anyone should ever eat in one sitting. As I look back on those Thanksgiving days of old, I remember fondly with... thanks!

This Thanksgiving season and always, we give thanks to God for the many blessings we receive. We especially remember and give thanks that we are freed people of God – freed from the hopeless attempt to save ourselves and from the delusion of taking credit for our own righteousness. Rather than pat ourselves on the back for a job that may or may not be well done, we instead give thanks to God who has given us His Son and the promise of eternal life as a gift.

Keeping a thankful attitude changes so much of how we see the world around us. It is a blessing as we come to worship and gather to give thanks to God only to once again be reminded of God's grace to us and then in that spirit of thanksgiving to be sent into a world that God loves. In the world we remember the goodness of God and, giving thanks, we lead others back to the cross.

This season and always I give thanks for you and for the good work you do in Christ's name.

In Thankfulness,

Pastor Ken



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



Prayer List

Kimberly Bastbitelli, Earl Beers, Raymond Beers, Nancy Berkebile, Anita Borger, Delores Christman, Emmy Dunbar, Pauline Eckhart, Robert Eckhart, Dale Eckley, Mark Green, Terry Hahn, Frank Hall III, Catherine Henshaw, Pete Horbowyj, Glen Kichline, Robert Knecht, Billie Jo Moyer, Matt Nothstein, Stephanie Pfancook, Erica Polizzi, Roseanna Polizzi, Chuck Schretzman, Sheila Sherer, John Spirk, Brandie Uliana, Hildegard Wheeler, Eden Wilbur, and Robert Ziegenfus.

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

Gurney Borger – Gracedale Nursing Home
 Richard Beers – Scenic View Nursing Home
 Helen Christman – The Palmerton
 Richard & Patricia Shook – The Gardens at York Terrace

Serving in the Armed Forces

Army – Danny Carden, Gerald Eckhart, and Tevor Gower
Coast Guard – Garrett Cameron
Marines – Sam Rudolf
Navy - Sarah McCreedy and Jeremy Zellers
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

- 1st Marjorie Beers, Todd Borger, Patricia Dwinell, Emily George, Bentley Stevens, Kelly Wilkins
- 2nd Sandra Green, Colby Moyer, Randy Serfass
- 3rd Kristen Rudelitch, Nathan Strohl
- 4th Phyllis Bond
- 5th Andrew Kuczma, Michelle Silliman
- 7th Kimberly Acierno, Mackenzie Long
- 8th Norwood George Jr.
- 9th Charles (Chuck) Arthur, Rilyn Serfass, Kevin Strohl
- 10th Sterling Brotzman Jr.
- 11th Margaret Christman, Lisa Naber George
- 12th Brittany Franya, James Leiding, Dylan Serfass, Ryan Strohl
- 13th Carly Arthur
- 16th Daniel Buchiane, Jr., Robert George, Tracy Geist
- 17th Roger (RJ) Arthur, Randy Kuehner
- 18th Roy Christman
- 19th Harold Kinzel
- 20th Sharon George, Edward Smith
- 21st Kristy Lordi
- 23rd Logan Kemmerer
- 24th Gregory Beers, Randy Frantz, George O'Brien, Roger Sherer Jr.
- 25th Sadie Borger, Lauren Fox, Scott Kuntzman
- 26th Shirley Craig
- 29th Hope Meinhart, Mary Perloni, Rolf Windhorn



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

<p>October Anniversaries (mistakenly omitted from last month's newsletter)</p> <p><i>Oct. 10 – James & Suzanne Sweigert</i></p> <p><i>Oct. 11 – Allen & Kelly Strohl</i></p>		<p><i>Nov. 11 – Earl & Connie Smale</i></p> <p><i>Nov. 23 – Doyle & Kellie Heffley</i></p> <p><i>Nov. 29 – Ronald & Karen Borger</i></p>
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WELCA News

November 2023

WELCA's October Basket Social was well-attended. Thanks to all who helped by donating baskets, baking items for sale, helping in the kitchen and elsewhere and cleaning up!

The next project for WELCA is a filling sale for Thanksgiving. Orders are due by November 5. The cost is \$8 for 2 lbs. and \$16 for 5 lbs. Preparation for making the filling will be held at 4 PM Nov. 20. Making the filling will be done on the 21st at 7 AM with Pick-up between 10 AM and 1 PM the same day. Help with the project is always appreciated.

November 13 is the church's Thank-offering Day. WELCA will donate money or other items to Valor House.

There is a new batch of Apple Butter and Chow-Chow available for purchase at the church also.

Prices:

Chow-Chow-	Qt.- \$10.00	Pt.- \$6.00
Apple Butter-	Pt.- \$6.00	



WELCA's meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 12:30 PM and all are welcome!

New members are always welcome!!



Thanksgiving Filling Sale

\$8 for 2 lbs. and \$16 for 5 lbs.

Fresh-made, not frozen! Orders due November 5

Pick-up on November 21 from 10 AM to 1 PM

To order call 610-681-5200 or 610-681-5020

designed by freepik



November Church Announcements

Important dates of the month to remember:

- 5th – All Saints Sunday w/ Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
Thanksgiving Filling Orders Due
- 6th – WELCA Meeting at 12:30 PM
- 12th – Worship w/ WELCA Thank Offering at 9:00 AM
- 16th – Council Meeting at 7:00 PM
- 19th – Christ the King w/ Holy Communion at 9:00 AM
Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due
- 20th – Prepare Filling Ingredients at 4:00 PM
- 21st – Make Filling at 7:00 AM, Pick-up Filling from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 23rd – Thanksgiving Day – OFFICE CLOSED
- 26th – First Sunday of Advent Worship Service at 9:00 AM



Sunday Worship services:

Worship services begin at 9:00 AM. We will continue to hold services both inside and outside upon personal preference.

COME WORSHIP with us!



Flower & Bulletin Sponsors

Nov. 5 – George Dwinell

Organ - Marjorie Beers

Nov. 12 – Earl & Connie Smale

Nov. 19 – Doyle & Kellie Heffley

Nov. 26 -- Kathleen Spirk & Gail Paules

Organ - Donald Craig

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



Christmas Poinsettias

\$10.00 Each

All Orders are Due Nov 19th.
Choice of red, white, or marble.

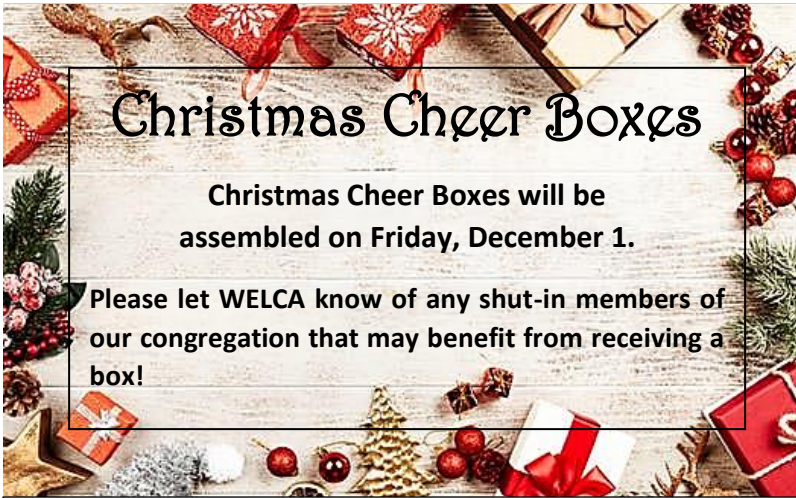
Order forms are available in the church narthex, or call the church office to place an order.



Christmas Cheer Boxes

Christmas Cheer Boxes will be assembled on Friday, December 1.

Please let WELCA know of any shut-in members of our congregation that may benefit from receiving a box!



THANKSGIVING
EVE
SERVICE



We will not be holding a Thanksgiving Eve Service this year.

We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

WE JUST WANT TO SAY...
THANK YOU!

We are Thankful for YOU



A special Thank You to everyone that came out to celebrate our 175th Church Anniversary!

A special thank you to everyone involved in making our 175th anniversary celebration such a success. It was a special day from the sharing of memories to the food and fellowship. Sharing this day with invited guests and church members made it a special and memorable event!

During the week of Thanksgiving office staff will be available on

Tuesday from 9 AM to 2 PM.

The office will be closed Thanksgiving Day!





Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is now set-up in the narthex. The tree benefits needy children in the area. All unwrapped gifts are due by Dec 3rd.

For more information, please speak to Connie Strohl



Christmas Festival

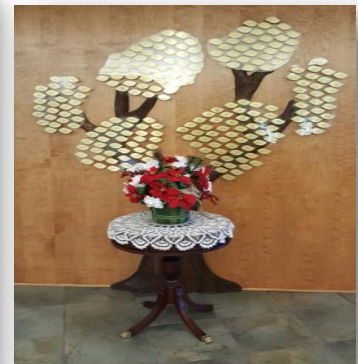
On Sunday, December 3rd we will be holding our Christmas Festival after worship.

A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Services **10:00** **5:30 PM** Everyone is Welcome!



10:00 AM



Ricky Moyer – President
Robert Ziegenfus – Vice President
Donna McGarry – Secretary

Jackie Brotzman
Delbert D. Christman
Sandy Christman
Pearl Eckhart

Frank Hall III
Wanda George
Rolf Windhorn

Council Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2023

Attendance: Jackie Brotzman, Delbert Christman, Sandy Christman, Pearl Eckhart, Frank Hall, Donna McGarry, Ricky Moyer, Melanie Windhorn, Rolf Windhorn, Bobby Ziegenfus, and Pastor Melber.

Absent: Wanda George

Visitors: None

Call to Order by President, Ricky Moyer

Devotions and Prayers: Ricky Moyer

Open Forum - No discussion

Correspondence – No correspondence to discuss

Secretary's Report – On motion by Ricky, second by Delbert and voice vote, the August 17, 2023 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – We realized a profit of \$6,627.10 from the Sunday School Picnic. On motion by Donna, second by Bobby and voice vote, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Financial Secretary's Report- On motion by Frank, second by Pearl and voice vote, the Financial Secretary's report was approved.

Pastor's Report

- We currently have two vacant seats on council. In addition, four 3-year terms will be up for election (Pearl, Wanda, Bobby and Jackie). Pastor is recommending that the Policy Committee amend the size of council. Based on our congregation size, we could operate with 6-9 council members.
- Parish Council is working on 2024 compensation and at a 3% increase, this would result in an increase to us of \$2,184. They have also discussed increasing Pastor's vacation from 4 to 5 weeks.
- The Parish is also discussing occasional combined worship services with St. John's in 2024.
- On motion by Bobby, second by Sandy and voice vote, Pastor's mileage reimbursement was approved in the amount of \$256.11.

Ongoing and Unfinished Business

- After obtaining pricing for fuel oil, we will purchase this winter season from K&K Oil and Ricky will ask them to set us up for auto fill. Next year we need to work on pre-pay pricing early enough (May) to make a decision. Service on the heat system will be done by Home Comfort Solutions. Ricky will contact them to obtain pricing in writing for their services.

- Rather than open a certificate of deposit with the donations Bobby received for the picnic entertainment, it was suggested we create a line item in the budget that would reflect the amount of money that is available. On motion by Delbert, second by Sandy and voice vote, the Finance Committee is directed to establish a line item in the budget for picnic entertainment in the amount of \$2,000. (This includes the donations Bobby received plus what we typically spend on musical entertainment)
- Melanie has ordered the replacement AED pads.
- We are awaiting quotes for replacement of two of our five air condition units.
- Pricing is also being sought for replacement of our copper piping with pex.
- St. John's hosted vacation bible school this year, and in 2024 it would be our turn. Before we commit to hosting, we need to be sure we have someone to organize the program and helpers. It was discussed that the expenses would be shared between the two churches rather than asking the parish to pay for it.
- Bobby pulled the top off the old septic system that services the UCC church. It is empty of waste, but still needs to be filled in and secured. Ricky will follow up with a member from the UCC church. The invoice from Towamensing Township for the septic system complaint will be put in line for payment.
- On motion by Delbert, second by Jackie and voice vote, Council approved the services of Stearns & Company Accounting and Tax Services, LLC for our payroll processing. This was the most economical and Melanie's reference checks on them were very positive.

Personnel Concerns – Stacy will be out of the office on October 26 to assist Pastor Ken with a parish-related project. She will also be leaving early on September 27 for personal reasons.

Council Member Responsibilities for October

Ushers: Pearl Eckhart, Donna McGarry

Chalice Bearer: Wanda George

Communion: October 1

Council Devotions: Donna McGarry

Building Finance Steward: Pearl Eckhart

Committees

Finance – Will soon commence work on the 2024 budget.

Music & Worship – No report

Christian Ed- No report

Fellowship- The September 17 fellowship dinner was a huge success. Thanks to volunteers and unsolicited donations, the total cost was only \$114.06. Weekly coffee and cookies after church service has started.

Building & Maintenance – On motion by Ricky, second by Delbert and voice vote, the shed gutter project was awarded to the Service Team at the low bid cost of \$400 (another bid was \$700).

Outreach – Cards continue to be mailed.

Mutual Ministry – No report

Evangelism – No report

WELCA – Jackie estimated 1,600 Persian donuts were sold. The basket social will be October 14 and in November filling will be made and sold. We need to have the kitchen water tested as a requirement of our license to prepare food.

New Business

- On motion by Pearl, second by Donna and voice vote, Pastor's request to establish a login for the On Realm program we have to maintain membership data. Currently the financial secretary has a login, but Pastor does not.
- Suggestion was made to insert a form with the next newsletter that will ask members to update their address so we have current information.
- The 175th anniversary of the UCC and Lutheran churches is coming in October. We will work on a small celebration at our October 29 service.

Other Items for the Good of the Church – None.

Next Meeting – October 19

Adjournment & Lord's Prayer – On motion by Jackie, second by Bobby and voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McGarry

Church Council Secretary

September 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
9/4/22	43	\$1,782.00	\$367.00	\$332.00
9/11/22	42	\$1,615.00	\$395.00	\$108.00
9/18/22	45	\$1,389.00	\$60.00	\$190.00
9/25/22	54	\$1,409.00	\$130.00	\$141.00
9/2/22 Amazon Smile			\$7.91	
Thrivent Direct Deposit				
		\$6,195.00	\$959.91	\$771.00

General Other:

Sunday School:

9/4/22 Alicia & Craig Pfaff donation for picnic dumpster	\$100.00
Word In Season	\$7.00
Donations for Derek Szena	\$260.00
9/11/22 Donation for table rentals	\$30.00
Donations for Derek Szena	\$365.00
9/18/22 Donations for Derek Szena	\$60.00
9/25/22 Word In Season	\$7.00
Donation from Linda Meckes	\$100.00
Donations for Derek Szena	\$23.00

Total Sunday Attendance YTD:	2,058
Average Sunday Attendance YTD:	53
Envelope & Plate YTD:	\$65,705.00
General Offering Other YTD:	\$5,993.52
Building YTD:	\$9,329.00

September 2023 OFFERING REPORT by Carol O'Brien

GENERAL OPERATING OFFERING				BUILDING FUND
DATE	Attendance	Envelope, Initial, Plate Sunday School, Holidays & Flowers	Other	Building Maintenance Children's Envelope
9/3/22	45	\$1,729.00		\$326.00
9/10/22	43	\$1,796.00		\$452.00
9/17/22	53	\$1,443.00		\$0.00
9/24/22	60	\$1,615.00	\$11.00	\$1,626.00
Monthly Total	201	\$6,583.00	\$11.00	\$2,404.00
YTD	2524	\$72,065.75	\$1,152.00	\$9,722.00

General Other:

Sunday School:

9/3/2023				
Flowers - Dwinell		\$30.00		
Flowers - Bond		\$30.00		
9/10/2023				
Flowers - Green		\$30.00		
Western Pocono Women's Club (kitcher		\$150.00		
9/17/2023				
Flowers - Heffley		\$40.00		
9/24/2023				
Word in Season		\$11.00		

Mon	Monthly	YTD
Total Sunday Attendance YTD:	201	2524
Average Sunday Attendance YTD:		65
General Envelope & Plate YTD:	\$1,847.84	\$72,065.75
General Offering Other YTD:	\$29.54	\$1,152.00
Building & Children YTD:	\$249.28	\$9,722.00

2023 Sunday School Picnic

5-Aug-23

FINAL

Income

Donations:

Bruce George Paving & Excavating, Inc	100.00	
Budget Store & Lock, Inc	300.00	
Forest Inn Storage, LLC	50.00	
Future Homes	100.00	
Glen Hahn	75.00	
Hearn Enterprises, Inc	50.00	
Lentz-Koma Insurance Agency, LLC	600.00	
Richard George, Building Contractor	300.00	
Robert Ziegenfus	50.00	
Kathryn Ziegenfus-Cake Walk Donation	20.00	
Cash Donations	85.00	
Speaker, Roger Berger donated fee in memory of his son, Michael Berger	100.00	
Thrivent	250.00	
Total Donations	<u>2,080.00</u>	2,080.00
Ticket Sales	5,520.00	
Service Offering	204.00	
Fish Pond	28.00	
Cake Walk	1,095.50	
Sale of remaining ice tea	23.00	
Total Income		8,927.50

Expenses

Start-up	860.00	
Return of Start-up Money	<u>(860.00)</u>	0.00
Band		500.00
Speaker for Afternoon Service		100.00
Advertising		
Innovative Designs & Publishing	40.00	
Times News, LLC	<u>321.90</u>	361.90
Portable Toilets (Stoney Ridge Septic)		375.00

Dumpster Rental (Towamensing Township) 51.00

Food & Beverages:

Sandra Christman 29.68

Country Harvest 158.62

Shirley Craig 217.04

Heckman Orchards 83.00

Connie Smale 112.72

Tommy Burke's Provisions, Inc 296.75

Zimmerman's Dairy 237.69 1,135.50

Total Expenses

2,523.40

Net Income

6,404.10

Donations Other Than Cash

Robert Ziegenfus-hotdogs 235.20

Rick & Billie Jo Moyer-tickets (Milan Printing) 148.00

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2 	3 	4 
5 All Saints Sunday with Holy Communion – 9:00 AM Filling orders due! Daylight Savings – Fall Back	6 WELCA Meeting – 12:30 PM	7	8 	9 	10 	11 
12 Worship Service – 9:00 AM WELCA Thank Offering	13	14	15	16 Council Meeting – 7:00 PM	17	18
19 Christ the King Sunday - 9:00 AM Poinsettia Orders Due!	20 Prepare Filling – 4:00 PM	21 Make Filling – 7:00 AM Pick Up Filling – 10 AM – 1 PM	22	23  OFFICE CLOSED	24	25
26 Worship Service – 9:00 AM First Sunday of Advent 	27	28	29	30	<p style="text-align: center;">For pastoral service contact Rev. Kenneth Melber at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home: 484-629-2812 Church office: 610-681-5200 Email: pastorken86@gmail.com</p>	