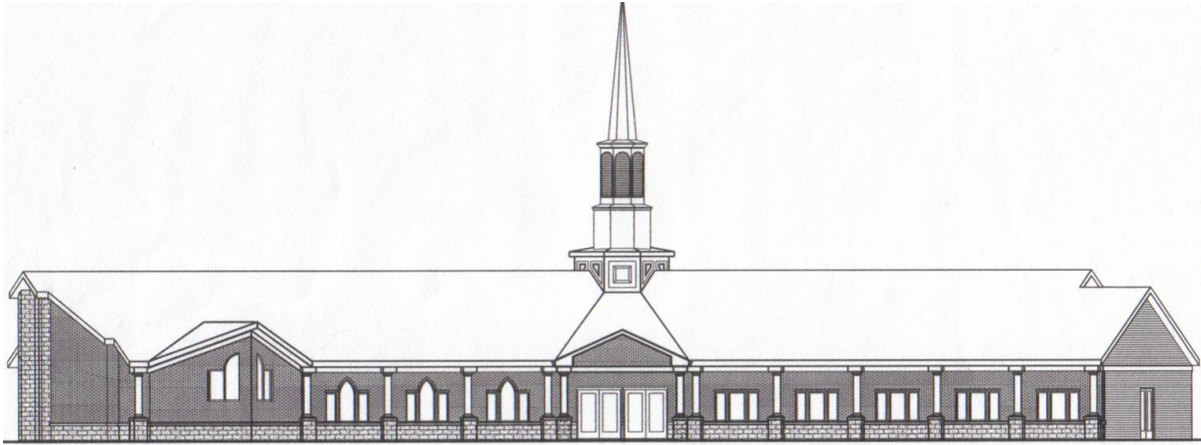


The Jerusalem Times



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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OCTOBER 2023

October Church Events

- 1st – Harvest Home Service w/ Holy Communion**
- 8th – Worship Service**
- 14th – Fall Basket Social**
- 15th – Worship Service**
- 22nd – Worship Service**
- 29th – Reformation Sunday Worship Service
175th Church Anniversary Celebration**

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,

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." - 1 Corinthians 3:9

It is my hope that you will forgive the timeliness of this month's newsletter as both of our congregations are experiencing plans for celebrations for our respective anniversaries.

This year, Jerusalem will celebrate its 175th anniversary during the morning service on October 29, with a time of cake and fellowship following. Later that afternoon, at 3pm, St. John's will celebrate its 225th anniversary with Bishop DeForest preaching and the Rev. Carl Shankweiler, Associate of the Bishop, presiding. It is truly a day full of celebrations and I encourage you to attend both as you are able.

It is hard to fathom with 175 and 225 years looks like. None of us were around when these congregations were formed, but we continue in a long line of faithful stewards of the things that God has given to us. Much has changed in those years. Where we meet. What ministries we have. What songs we sing. What pastors we've known. What faithful saints have graced the buildings in which we've worshipped God. Yet, the one thing that doesn't change is God's Word and His faithfulness.

I am blessed beyond measure to be just a small piece of your 175-year history (and St. John's 225-year history). May God continue to bless this family of faith with more and more faithful stewards. Until then, let's party!

Blessings,
Pastor Ken



Sunday Worship services:

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

COME WORSHIP with us!



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

A big thank you to everyone who helped out with the Persian Donut Sale. Whether you helped with preparing, packing, and delivering the donuts; your time and help is always greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to all those who have or will donate to our Fall Basket Social. Your generosity is always appreciated, and helps make this event so special.

Flower & Bulletin Sponsors

Oct. 1 – Henry & Joan Altemose

Oct. 8 – Richard & Margie Beers

Oct. 15 – Mildred Johnson

Oct. 22 – Judy Walck

Oct. 29 – Robert & Pauline Eckhart

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



Outreach Committee

The outreach committee will continue with card care ministry. If you know of someone who should be receiving a card, please contact Sandy Christman or Joan Altemose, thank you.

Secretary Position Help Wanted

Stacy Buchiane is leaving her position as Church Secretary. Therefore, we are currently looking for someone to fill this position. Anyone Interested please speak to Ricky Moyer, Pastor Melber or contact the Church office.

Sunday School

Sunday School has begun and is being held during our 9:00 AM Worship Service. All Are Welcome!





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



Prayer List

Kimberly Bastbitelli, Earl Beers, Raymond Beers, Richard 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
Helen Christman – The Palmerton
Richard & Patricia Shook – The Gardens at York Terrace

Serving in the Armed Forces

Army – Danny Carden and Gerald Eckhart

Coast Guard – Garrett Cameron

Marines – Sam Rudolf

Navy - Sarah McCreedy 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

- 1st Alexandra Green, Nicole Haas, Andrew Rodgers, Brenda Strohl, Judy Walck, Christine Wortmann
- 3rd Donald Gouger, Susan Green
- 6th Theodore Hittner, Gerald Kuehner
- 7th Kaylee Frey
- 9th Rickie Strohl
- 10th Glenn Bollinger, Seth Hook, Waylon VanBuskirk
- 11th Riley Carden
- 13th Jared Everett, Charles Ottinger
- 15th Piper Johnson
- 16th Samantha George, Jennifer Rufo
- 17th LeeAnn Krauss, James Lordi, Tiffany Miller
- 18th Gena Arthur, Jason Fox
- 20th Timothy George, Nicholas Lobach, Samantha Perloni, Zoe Turner
- 22nd Gabriella Buchiane, Brody George, Stacey Everett
- 23rd Grace Prutzman
- 25th Henry Altemose, Garrett Bollinger
- 26th Kaitlyn Edinger
- 27th Diane Fronheiser
- 30th Lisa Hansler, Michael Taschler
- 31st Gail Beers, Daniel Butz



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

- 2nd – Henry & Joan Altemose
- 4th – Richard & Marjorie Beers
Rolf & Melanie Windhorn
- 7th – Derek & Felicia Anthony
- 8th – John A. & Margaret Forgay
- 10th – Scott & Heather Long
James & Suzanne Sweigert



- 11th – Lynn & Kristen Rudelitch
Allen & Kelly Strohl
- 13th – Charles & Kimberly Ottinger
- 17th – Daniel & Linda Zacharias
- 30th – Robert & Pauline Eckhart
Ryan & Tanya Hook

October, 2023

WELCA has resumed its busy schedule over recent months. A Chow-chow and Apple Butter project was held on August 28th & 29th in Luther Hall. There were a lot of people on the 28th to wash, cut and cook the vegetables and fruits for future sales. These items will be available in the church and at future sales events for the following prices:

Chow-chow - Quarts: \$10 Pints: \$6 Apple Butter- Pints: \$6

A Persian Donut Sale was held on Sept. 21st. The doughnuts were prepared and iced earlier after orders were submitted. Thanks to all who placed orders!

A Basket Social is scheduled for Saturday, October 14th from 9 am - 2 pm. Food is also planned to be sold. WELCA is once again holding a Thanksgiving filling sale and all orders are due by November 5th. The cost is \$8 for 2 lbs and \$16 for 5 lbs. Filling will be made and can be picked up on Tuesday November 21st from 10 am to 1 pm. WELCA's next meeting is October 2nd at 12:30 PM. All are welcome to join us!!

WELCA wants to thank all people who have helped clean, cook, and donate to all their events.

It's Greatly Appreciated!!!

New members are always welcome!!



October Church Announcements

Important dates of the month to remember:

1st – Harvest Home Service w/ Holy Communion at 9:00 AM

2nd – WELCA meeting at 12:30 PM

8th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM

9th -- Cemetery Clean-up at 6:00 PM

14th – Fall Basket Social from 9 AM to 2 PM

15th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM

19th – Council meeting at 7:00 PM

22nd – Worship Service at 9:00 AM

29th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM, 175th Church Anniversary celebration after worship



Sunday, October 1 & October 8th we will celebrate Harvest Home, Proceeds will go to CACPAC. Donations of non-perishable food items, paper products, and hygiene products can still be dropped off at the church during Sunday Worship time or during office hours.

Thank you to Wanda George for decorating our Harvest Home tables and making them look beautiful!

**Come Celebrate our 175th Anniversary with us on
Sunday, October 29th
following our 9:00 AM Worship Service!**



to the family and friends of those that passed away recently.

Mr. Edwin Strohl, 90, of Lehigh, formerly of Kunkletown, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023, in the Mahoning Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Mahoning Township. He worked as a truck driver for Shiffer Bituminous, Kunkletown, for 33 years until retiring in 1995. Born in Kunkletown, he was a son of the late Elmer and Henrietta (Harpel) Strohl. He served our country with dedication and courage in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a member of the American Legion Post 927, Gilbert, and the VFW Post 5588, Kunkletown. He was also a member of Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Trachsville, the Indian Mountain Rod and Gun Club, Kresgeville, where he served as trustee and former vice president, the Odd Fellows, Bushkill Township, and the N.R.A., and was a charter member of the Polk Township Volunteer Fire Co., Kresgeville. Surviving are many nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by his siblings: George Strohl, Elsie Hasik, Viola Bruch, Rachel Keller, Amelia Hittner and Magina Hittner.



Fall Basket Social

Saturday, October 14th

from 9 AM – 2 PM



Delicious Food available:

**BBQ, filling, homemade soups,
etc. & a baked goods sale.**

Chow Chow & Apple Butter sale.

**Theme baskets with \$25 hidden in
3 baskets.**

Drawing Starts at 2 PM.



Thanksgiving Filling Sale

Orders due: November 5th

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

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

**To Order Call: 610-681-5200,
610-681-5020 or 610-826-7625**

Sunday Fellowship Dinner

September 17, 2023

Our committee wanted to extend our appreciation to ALL church members who have shared their time, talents, and treasures to maintain our beautiful church. The three (3) "T's" - time, talent, and treasures are equally important for the survival of our church and congregation. Everyone plays a significant part in holding Jerusalem together. As a team, we felt it was important to hold a special dinner to celebrate those three "T's" and those who offer them so freely.

Our committee met several times to plan the menu and discuss how we could move forward knowing we had \$500 in the Fellowship budget to work with. Our goal was to provide a NO COST dinner to our church members. In addition, we wanted to avoid asking for donations and to be cost conscientious of our budget.

When the menu was finalized, the committee immediately started to donate their time shopping for food, paper products and decorations. Everything we could do to offset costs was done. Donations by our committee consisted of baked ziti, peppers and tomatoes to make the sausage, ice cream toppings, green beans, potatoes, and paper products. This list goes on and on of donations which we did not ask for. Word was out that we needed peppers and tomatoes for the salad and boy did we receive tomatoes! We had members volunteer to bake cakes for dessert, one member donated \$50, another member donated \$100! Cornstalks and pumpkins were donated. Donna McGarry crocheted the beautiful white crosses that were placed at each setting.

Due to some unforeseen circumstances, we offer special thanks to Amy Sanders and Shelly Christman who stepped in at the last minute to assist in the kitchen and to help serve our meal.

Because of the numerous donations the total cost for the dinner from our budget was minimal.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Number of guests served | 66 |
| Take out dinners shared | 3 |
| Total dinners served | 69 |
| Cancellations | 4 |
| No shows | 7 |
| \$500 budget less donations, | |
| total cost of dinner | \$114.06 |

Committee Members: Sandy Christman, Carol O'Brien, Donna McGarry, and Connie Smale

Special thanks to Amy Sanders & Shelly Christman

Fellowship Dinner Pictures



Above picture of Fellowship Committee members: Sandy Christman, Carol O'Brien, and Connie Smale. Help also provided by Shelly Christman and Amy Sanders



Panoramic Picture of the Fellowship Dinner

Church Council Members



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

Jackie Brotzman
Delbert D. Christman
Sandy Christman
Pearl Eckhart

Wanda George
Frank Hall III
Rolf Windhorn

Council Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2023

Attendance: Jackie Brotzman, Delbert Christman, Sandy Christman, Pearl Eckhart (excused early), Wanda George, Frank Hall, Donna McGarry, Ricky Moyer, Melanie Windhorn, Bobby Ziegenfus,

Absent: Rolf Windhorn, Pastor Melber

Visitors: Stacy Buchiane

Call to Order by President Ricky Moyer

Devotions and Prayers: Sandy Christman

Open Forum

- Stacy will be unable to open for Church services this Sunday, and Delbert offered to open.

Correspondence

- George's P&H has submitted a quote for replacement of the air conditioning units (20 years old). We are awaiting additional quotes.
- We received notice that our AED pads have been recalled and Melanie is contacting the company for replacement.

Secretary's Report – On motion by Bobby, second by Frank and voice vote, the June 16 and July 23 minutes were approved. Minutes for the June 25 special meeting will be provided for our next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Melanie informed the group the report of profit from the picnic is incomplete as not all invoices have been received. Bobby pointed out that there were additional donations (drinks, hot dogs, etc.) that were obtained.
- Our money market is now seeing over 5% interest return.
- On motion by Frank, second by Delbert and voice vote the June 30 and July 31 reports were approved.

Financial Secretary's Report- On motion by Ricky, second by Donna and voice vote, the June and July reports were approved.

Pastor's Report

- Request was made to fold all pastoral mileage costs into the Parish budget for 2024. Concern was raised that one church may end up paying more than their typical share (and this goes for both churches). On motion by Ricky, second by Delbert and voice vote, the Council decided to continue the current practice of each church paying for their own mileage.
- St. John's paid \$400 in expenses for Vacation Bible School. On motion by Ricky, second by Wanda and voice vote, Council authorized payment of \$200 to St. John's for our share of VBS costs. This will be paid from the Youth Group Fund.
- Discussion was held about whether VBS costs should be a Parish expense. This was tabled until we find out how the organizers obtain funding from the Parish since they only meet twice a year. We will host VBS in 2024.
- On motion by Jackie, second by Frank and voice vote, Pastor's mileage reimbursement of \$413.31 was approved (this is for two months).

Ongoing and Unfinished Business

- We are happy with the recent service of Home Comfort Solutions on our air conditioning units. Ricky will reach out to them to see if they want to continue servicing us. They did recommend replacement and we are obtaining pricing.
- George's P&H will replace ultraviolet lights on our water system.
- The deadline to request pre-pay of fuel oil has passed. Council discussed that we are not on auto-fill, and we should get pricing to fill the tanks now as the cost is increasing. Ricky will ask Home Comfort Solutions if there are any fuel oil suppliers that we should avoid because of dirt, etc. in fuel oil. We will then select a supplier based on the best current price.
- Bobby received donations toward the picnic entertainment that exceeded our costs by \$1,200. On request of Council, Melanie will contact First Northern Bank to see if a certificate of deposit is available to hold the money to be used for next year's entertainment.
- We are still trying to address the invoice from Towamensing Township regarding the septic system complaint about the UCC Church. It was discussed that, since they recently installed a new system, we also need to be sure the old system has been properly disconnected and filled with sand.

Personnel Concerns – Stacy was off for vacation last week, and let us all know. We should ask that anytime she needs time off (whether scheduled for vacation or at last minute), she should email Council of the dates or at least contact Council President or Vice-President. This way we can respond to any inquiries by church members about office hours.

Council Member Responsibilities for September

Ushers: Bobby Ziegenfus, Jackie Brotzman (need 2 more)

Chalice Bearer: Jackie Brotzman

Communion: September 3

Council Devotions: Ricky Moyer

Building Finance Steward: Bobby Ziegenfus

Committees

Finance – No report

Music & Worship – No report

Christian Ed – No report

Fellowship

- Coffee and cookies will resume in September.
- Last day to sign up for the September 17 Fellowship Dinner is August 27. We received a \$50 cash donation for the dinner, as well as several food and paper supply donations. There was also ice cream left over from the picnic that we can use. The Committee will meet August 31 to finalize planning for the dinner.

Building & Maintenance

- On motion by Delbert, second by Sandy and voice vote, Council accepted the quote of \$3,920 from Van Peters to paint the steeple. We aren't sure if the work can still be done this year; if not, it will likely be done in spring 2024.
- The new shed does not have gutters and Ricky will get quotes. Depending on the condition, there is some leftover gutter stored in one of the grove stands that may be used.
- A light pole at the parking lot by the grove was removed because it was rotting at the base and starting to lean.
- As part of the air conditioning replacement, we may need to replace the copper piping throughout the church with Pex pipe. Recently, pinholes in a copper pipe caused a leak in the men's bathroom and this may be a sign of similar problems in the future.

Outreach

- Sandy and Joan continue to send cards. There are many ideas on how to improve outreach; however, we need additional help. Gift bags for visitors or new residents, pens, magnets, etc., are all ideas on how we can get our name out.

Mutual Ministry – No report.

Evangelism – No report.

WELCA

- Chow chow and apple butter will be made August 28 and 29 at 7:00 a.m.
- Persian donuts will be on sale (\$2 each) until September 10 with delivery September 21.
- Basket social will be October 14 from 9-2.

New Business

- The church picnic tradition is that we trade off the first/second Saturday of August with the UCC Church every 5 years. Starting in 2025, our picnic will be held the second Saturday. Since the Carbon County Fair became active, it does create a conflict. Discussion was held to move to another date; however, there are other events that may also be going on.
- The UCC Pastor pointed out that a celebration of our 175th Anniversary will be coming.
- Council discussed ideas on how to “update” our church to attract members, especially the younger crowd. A lot of people like our traditional ways; however, this may not be sustainable long-term. We are open to ideas and suggestions.
- We often used fliers inserted with the Times News to advertise church events. In the future, we will need to review them prior to distribution to be sure they are correct and eye-catching.
- Melanie is looking into options for preparation of our payroll W-2’s and 1099’s. Our current software (Quickbooks) does not have this capability.

Other Items for the Good of the Church

Next Meeting- September 21.

Adjournment & Lords Prayer- On motion by Bobby, second by Delbert and voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McGarry, Church Council Secretary

July 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 |
| 7/2/22 | 73 | \$2,246.00 | \$0.00 | \$621.00 |
| 7/9/22 | 43 | \$1,086.00 | \$0.00 | \$110.00 |
| 7/16/22 | 54 | \$1,718.00 | \$300.00 | \$17.00 |
| 7/23/22 | 53 | \$1,595.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 7/30/22 | 66 | \$2,170.00 | \$0.00 | \$155.00 |
| Monthly Total | 289 | \$8,815.00 | \$300.00 | \$903.00 |
| YTD Total | 2132 | \$60,141.75 | \$1,141.00 | \$6,638.00 |

General Other:

Sunday School:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| 7/2 Flowers, Spirks | \$30.00 | | |
| 7/16 Picnic Donation/Band | | | |
| Budget Stone & Lock Inc. | \$300.00 | | |
| 7/23 Pic Donations/Band | | | |
| Hearn Enterprises | \$50.00 | | |
| George's Bldg Contractor | \$300.00 | | |
| Forest Inn Storage | \$50.00 | | |
| Robert Ziegenfus | \$50.00 | | |
| Glen & Shirley Hahn | \$75.00 | | |
| 7/30 Flowers, F & K Hall | \$30.00 | | |
| Flowers, C. Strohl | \$60.00 | | |
| Picnic Donations/Band | | | |
| Bruce George Paving | \$100.00 | | |
| Future Homes | \$100.00 | | |

| | Monthly Total | YTD Total |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Total Sunday Attendance YTD: | 289 | 2132 |
| Average Sunday Attendance YTD: | 69 | 69 |
| General Envelope & Plate YTD: | \$1,940.06 | \$60,141.75 |
| General Offering Other YTD: | \$36.81 | \$1,141.00 |
| Building YTD: | \$214.13 | \$6,638.00 |

August 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 |
| 8/6/22 | 54 | \$1,717.00 | \$0.00 | \$292.00 |
| 8/7/22 | 45 | \$1,170.00 | \$0.00 | \$251.00 |
| 8/21/22 | 45 | \$1,172.00 | \$0.00 | \$126.00 |
| 8/28/22 | 47 | \$1,282.00 | \$0.00 | \$11.00 |
| Monthly Total | 191 | \$5,341.00 | \$0.00 | \$680.00 |
| YTD | 2323 | \$65,482.75 | \$1,141.00 | \$7,318.00 |

General Other:

Sunday School:

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | Monthly | YTD |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Total Sunday Attendance YTD: | 191 | 2323 |
| Average Sunday Attendance YTD: | 66 | 66 |
| General Envelope & Plate YTD: | \$1,870.94 | \$65,482.75 |
| General Offering Other YTD: | \$32.60 | \$1,141.00 |
| Building YTD: | \$209.09 | \$7,318.00 |

OCTOBER 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 1 Harvest Home w/ Holy Communion – 9:00 AM | 2 WELCA Meeting – 12:30 PM Cemetery Clean up- 6:00 PM | 3 | 4  German-American Day 6 October | 5  | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Worship Service – 9:00 AM | 9 Indigenous Peoples Day  | 10 | 11  HAPPY FARMERS' DAY | 12  HAPPY BIRTHDAY U.S. NAVY | 13 Make Meat and Soup for Basket Social – 7:00 AM | 14 <i>Fall Basket Social – 9 AM to 2 PM</i>  |
| 15 Worship Service – 9:00 AM | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Council Meeting – 7:00 PM | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Worship Service – 9:00 AM | 23 | 24  United Nations Day | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 Reformation Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 AM 175 th Church Anniversary Celebration after worship | 30 | 31 Oct. 31, 1517  Reformationstag Reformation Day  HAPPY HALLOWEEN | | | | |

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

Fellowship Dinner Pictures Continued

