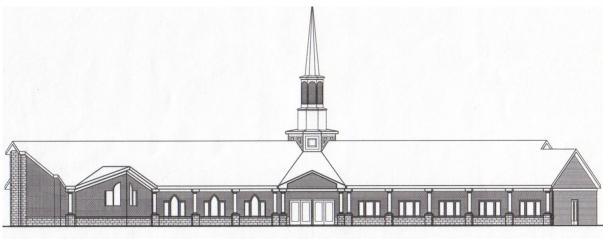
The Jerusalem Times



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

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

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September 2023

September Church Events

3rd – Worship Service w/ Holy Communion

10th - Worship Service

Persian Donut orders due

17th – Worship Service

Fellowship Dinner at 5pm

21st - Persian Donut pick-up at 9 -12 PM

24th – Worship Service

Church Office: 610-681-5200 E-MAIL: <u>jlc03@ptd.net</u>

FACEBOOK: 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 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

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

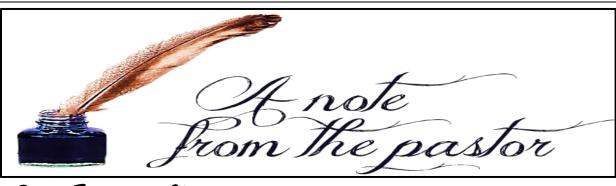
WELCA News

Announcements

Council Meeting Minutes

Offering Report

Calendar



Dear Friends in Christ,

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching." -Hebrews 10:24-25

One of the greatest gifts we have is church community. Every Sunday, we set aside the time at 9:00am to gather for worship. In worship, we hear of God's loving purpose for our lives and receive the gifts of God in His Word, through remembering the promises of God in the waters of Baptism, and in receiving His forgiveness in the celebration of Holy Communion. The Church is the gathered community and it is a true blessing to me every opportunity we get to be with each other. I hope the same rings true for you.

We are a group of people learning about God and learning about each other together. Nobody has all of the answers. Nobody has all of the resources. All of us have tons of questions. The blessing of the gathered community is that we learn and encourage each other. That happens most profoundly on Sunday mornings, but I am thankful also for all of the other opportunities where we get together.

I give thanks to those who have prepared and donated coffee and cookies and diligently gave us a space to gather after worship to spend a few minutes with one another. I give thanks to the many people from both of our churches who come for Bible Study. I give thanks to the children and teachers of our Sunday School program. I give thanks to the council members who, at least once a month, sit down together and feed off of each other's gifts in making sure that the Church is serving God and His community.

If you haven't had the opportunity to be with us, please consider making it a habit to spend time with God and to learn along with us. I believe you will find a community that will love to walk life's journey with you.

See you Sunday, Pastor Ken



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



Prayer List

Kimberly Bastbinelli, Earl Beers, Raymond Beers, Richard Beers, Anita Borger, Delores Christman, Blaine Eckhart, Pauline Eckhart, Robert Eckhart, Dale Eckley, Mark Green, Terry Hahn, Frank Hall III, Pete Horbowyj, Glen Kichline, Raymond Knecht, Billie Jo Moyer, Matt Nothstein, Stephanie Pfancook, Roseanna Polizzi, Chuck Schretzman, Sheila Sherer, John Spirk, Brandie Uliana, Hildegard Wheeler and Robert Ziegenfus.

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

Gurney Borger – Grace Dale Nursing Home Helen Christman – The Palmerton Richard & Patricia Shook – The Gardens at York Terrace Edwin Strohl – Mahoning Valley Nursing Home

Serving in the Armed Forces

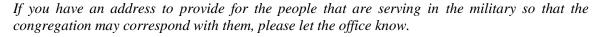
Army - Danny Carden and Gerald Eckhart

Coast Guard - Garrett Cameron

Navy - Sarah McCready, Noah Sensinger, Tyler Silliman, and Jeremy Zellers

National Guard Army - Sean Hall

Army Reserves - William L. Hittner and Theodoric Hittner





Birthdays

- 2nd Darren Frable
- 3rd Marcus Stevens, Melanie Windhorn
- 4th Emma Lockard
- 6th Lillian Fox, Heidi George, Tammy Strohl
- 7th Margaret Forgay
- 8th Edwin Strohl
- 10th Megan Spirk, Allen Strohl
- 11th Terry Kuehner, Amber Locher, Alex Lockard, Ella Rufo
- 12th Duane Borger, Garv Bruch, Nidia Colon, Sheila Sherer
- 13th Gladys Green, Levi Johnson
- 14th Mark Brotzman, Kelly Strohl
- 16th Angela Balogach, Joan Greene, Christopher Moyer, Lauralee Serfass
- 19th Cathy Borger, Kevin Silliman
- 20th Christine Greenzweig, Amy Hahn, Alyssa Rudelitch
- 21st Janet Beers, Goldie Hagenbuch, Gilbert Perloni III, Connie Smale, Jared Zacharias
- 23rd Donald Burger, Adalyn Havdt
- 24th Frank Hall III, Kellie Heffley, Wesley Serfass
- 25th Preston Miller, Cody Wilkins
- 26th Jillian Adamson, Erika Easton
- 27th Jacob George, Taylor Ledo, Cory Repsher, Dixie Sherer
- 28th Randy George Jr., Jillian Kuehner
- 29th Trevor Gower



7th – Roger Jr. & Sheila Sherer

9th – Donald & Marla Szena

17th - Daniel & Kristin Butz

18th – Dennis & Tina Hedrick



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

The birth dates and anniversary



21st – George & Pat Dwinell

25th – Ronald & Michelle Easton

26th – Curtis & Nancy Green

30th - Michael & Tiffany Schoch



WELCA participated in preparing for August's annual Sunday School Picnic on the 5th, by making food such as filling and meat. Members also worked in the food stand and other places during the picnic. Many other members baked desserts and other items. Luther Hall had to be cleaned up as well as preparing the outside area.

WELCA also has a project planned for making chow-chow and apple butter at the end of August. The dates for this will be Monday, August 28th and Tuesday, August 29th.

The Persian Donut Sale will be on September 21st and all orders must be in by the 10th. Donuts cost \$2.00 each. WELCA's monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5th at 12:30 PM.

New members are always welcome!!

Streak-Less Microfiber Cloth



\$5.00 each

Available at the church office or see Shirley Craig.



Apple Butter

\$6.00 / pint

Available at the church or see Shirley Craig.



Chow Chow

\$6.00 / Pint

\$10.00 / Quart

Available at the church or see Shirley Craig.





2023 Sunday School Picnic

This year's Sunday School Picnic held on Saturday, August 5th featured great food, music, and community support. We were blessed again this year with good weather and the eagerness of so many to spend the time reconnecting with others. We were greatly pleased to see so many people show up for this event, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Picnic Prizes

The following prizes were handed out at the Sunday School Picnic during the service:

Oldest Man – Alan Eckhart at age 89; Prize donated by Terry & Mary Hahn
Oldest Woman – Francis Reinher; Donated by Curtis & Nancy Green

Married the Longest – Bob & Pauline Eckhart at 67 years; Donated by Delbert & Shelly Christman
Married the Shortest – Keith & Victoria Smith at 2 years; Donated by Delbert & Shelly Christman

Traveled the Farthest – Rolf Windhorn from South Carolina; Donated by Delbert & Shelly Christman

Youngest Child – Eva Smith at 7 months; Donated by Bruce & Wanda George

Largest Family – Keith & Victoria Smith with 6 in the family; Donated by John & Kathy Spirk

2023 Church Picnic Raffle Winners

Prize	Donated by	Winner		
Quilt	Fern Serfass	Bob Long		
Quilt Rack	Frank Hall III	Eleanor Long		
\$50	Roger Christman	Bob Eckhart		
Item	Wanda George	Cindy Kuntzman		
Comforter Set	Sharlee Ahner	Donna McGarry		
\$50	Delbert Christman	Brooke Sheckler		
Bathrobe	Jasmine Marher	Brandy Christman		
Money	Connie Smale	Mary Bollinger		
Afghan	Shirley Craig	Brandy Christman		
Item	Sharlee Ahner	Juilia Sherer		
Wood Item	Pat Dwinell	Bob Long		
Gift Card	Pearl Eckhart	Ernest Christman		
\$50	Delbert Christman	Agnes Russo		
Item	Shirley Craig	Sterling Haydt		
\$25	Julia Sherer	Cody Wilkins		
Roast Pan	Sheila Sherer	Helen Silliman		
\$50	Kathleen Spirk	Nevin George		
Wine Basket	Carol O'Brien	Trishia Smale		
Item	Tiffany Johnson	Colin Spirk		
Afghan	Brenda Sheckler	Jackie Brotzman		
\$25	Irene Zacharias	Irene Zacharias		
\$25	Irene Zacharias	Resa Hall		
Gift Card	Irene Zacharias	Amy Hahn		
Gift Card	Irene Zacharias	Connie Strohl		
\$50	Doyle & Kelly Heffley	Joanne Kleintop		
\$50	Ricky Moyer	AnnaMaria Solt		
Gift Card	Joan Greene	Ivy Hagenbach		
Wood Item	Pat Dwinell	Helen Silliman		
Item	Sharlee Ahner Timothy George			
\$50	Martha Serfass Patty Lancsak			
Childs Basket	Sheila Sherer	Althea Handwerk		
Blanket		Englert		
Gift Card	Mary Hahn	Danielle Zuk		

There was a total of 34 prizes. 1,000 tickets were printed and all sold.

Thank you to everyone that bought tickets and prizes for our raffle. Congratulations to all the winners! Sharlee Ahner

Cake Walk

The following prizes were handed out during the cake walk:

We had a total of 79 cakes, 10 cases of soda, 5 watermelons, 2 cases of Ice Tea, 2 Packs of Gatorade and a box of assorted snacks. Thank you to everyone that donated!

Cake Walk Raffle Prizes

1. Christine Muffley from Saylorsburg won a Shoprite Gift Card; Prize donated by Delbert & Shelly Christman



- 2. Susan Kuehner from Lansford Shoprite Gift Card; Donated by Delbert & Shelly Christman
- 3. Pauline Eckhart from Palmerton Giant Gift Card; Donated by John & Kathy Spirk
- 4. Miranda Wilkins, Palmerton Shoprite Gift Card; Donated by Martha Hittner
- 5. Susan Kuehner Dollar General Gift Card; Donated by Phil and Donna McGarry
- 6. Kayla Muffley from Saylorsburg Subway Gift Card, Donated by Phil and Donna McGarry
- 7. Eleanor Long from Kunkletown won a gift card, Donated by Rita Swanger

<u>Pictures from our Annual Sunday School Picnic August 5, 2023</u> <u>Preparation for SS Picnic</u>







A great number of those in attendance took part in the cake walk.













September Church Announcements

Important dates of the month to remember:

- 3rd Worship Service w/ Communion at 9:00 AM
- 5th WELCA meeting at 12:30 PM
- 10th Worship Service at 9:00 AM Persian Donut orders due
- 17th Worship Service at 9:00 AM, fellowship after worship, Sunday School begins

Fellowship Dinner at 5:00 PM

21st – Persian Donut orders made, pick-up donuts from 9 – 12 noon Council meeting at 7:00 PM

24th – Worship Service at 9:00 AM



Sunday School Rally Day

The first day of Sunday School will be on September 17th at 9 AM!



If you have any children in grades K-6 who may be interested in Sunday School, please contact Pastor Ken or the church office to receive a registration form. Sunday School will be from 9-10am, beginning with a message in the sanctuary from the Pastor and then the children dismissed to their classrooms.



THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all those who helped with this year's annual Sunday School Picnic. Your help was greatly appreciated!

Thank you to the band Dean Hahn & The Hawks for providing the great music and entertainment for the evening. Thank You again to all of our Band and Picnic Sponsors!

Fellowship

Starting on Sunday, September 17th we will have fellowship after worship services.

Coffee and cookies will be provided!

<u>September</u> <u>Flower & Bulletin Sponsors</u>

3rd – Phyllis Bond

10th – Joan Greene

17th – Dovle Heffley

24th – Pat Dwinell



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



Bible Studies held at St. John's starting on Sunday, September 10th at 1:15 pm. Everyone is welcome!





Fellowship Dinner Sunday, September 17th 5:00 PM (Please arrive promptly as dinner will begin at 5:00)

The Menu

Baked Ziti Baked Boneless Chicken Sausage & Peppers simmered in tomatoes

> Tossed Salad Green Beans Oven Roasted Potatoes Dinner Rolls

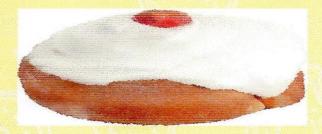
> > Desserts Molasses Cake Angel Food Cake

Hot coffee A ten

We look forward to seeing you then for an evening of fellowship and fun. Space is limited to 80 people. Please sign up on the sheet in the northex.



PERSIAN DONUT SALE \$2.00 each



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church 500 Church Drive, (Trachsville) Palmerton, PA 18071

To Order Call: 610-681-5200 (Church Office)

All Orders Are Due: Sept. 10th
Pick-up donuts at the Church
September 21st from 9 - 12 PM



ST. JOHN'S – JERUSALEM LUTHERAN PARISH SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

Congregation (circle one): Jerusalem St. John s
CHILD INFORMATION
Child's Full Name:
Address:
Child's Birthdate: /
Child's Grade as of 2023-2024 school year (circle one):
K 1 2 3 4 5 6
PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION
Legal Guardian's Full Name:
Guardian's Email:
Guardian's Phone: (
Relationship to Child:
Legal Guardian's Full Name:
Guardian's Email:
Guardian's Phone: (
Relationship to Child:
EMERGENCY CONTACT
Emergency Contact Full Name:
Emergency Contact Phone: (
Relationship to Child:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Other than the parents/guardians listed above, please list all individuals that have permission to pick up your child from Sunday School:
Does your child have any allergies or medical conditions we should know about?
If you are not available and a medical emergency arises, does the supervising teacher have permission to seek medical help? If so, where?
Please list anything else we should know about your child (likes, dislikes, etc.)

PHOTO RELEASE

I give permission to take my child's photo for classroom projects and/or for use in church communications. ___ Yes ___ No

Please return to the church office.

Church Council Members



Rick 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

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2023

Attendance: Jackie Brotzman, Sandy Christman, Pearl Eckhart, Wanda George, Donna McGarry, Rolf Windhorn, Bobby Ziegenfus, and Pastor Melber.

Absent: Delbert Christman, Frank Hall, Ricky Moyer.

Visitors: Roger Christman, Susan Lovejoy

Call to Order by Vice President, Bobby Ziegenfus

Devotions and Prayers: Jackie Brotzman

Open Forum

Susan Lovejoy of Thrivent Financial reviewed the Church's current investments. We have four investment fund plans that have varying goals. The funds are mostly invested in bonds, a few include stocks for a slightly more aggressive plan. The year 2022 was not good for investments, but she sees improvement in the first quarter of 2023. She didn't have our exact original investment figures to determine how well the investments have performed since original purchase; and will provide that for information at the next Council meeting. We also have available a money market that is currently offering 4.4% interest. We currently have some funds in a money market with First Northern Bank and will ask Melanie to provide the interest rate on that account for discussion at the next Council meeting.

Correspondence - None

Secretary's Report – Jackie made a motion to approve the April 20, 2023 minutes, seconded by Wanda George. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Pastor Melber thanked Melanie for providing year-to-date comparisons for 2022 vs. 2023 revenue and expenses. This will be helpful in evaluating our financial activity. Wanda made a motion to approve, seconded by Rolf. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report – Pastor Melber noted a discrepancy in the attendance number between this report and his numbers. He believes it could be a transposition of numbers and will clarify the differences for future reporting. Donna made a motion to approve, seconded by Jackie. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report -

- Pastor Melber has received a letter of resignation from Carol O'Brien from Council, effective
 immediately, and as Financial Secretary effective June 30. He discussed the need for a Council
 replacement, as well as another existing vacancy on Council. After some discussion, Pastor
 Melber will approach several recommended members to see if they are interested in serving.
- Carol's resignation from Council creates a vacancy in the position of Council Secretary and Donna offered to fill this position.
- The Financial Secretary vacancy will be announced in Church for anyone interested.

May 18, 2023 Page 2

• Stacy Buchiane has offered to fill the Sexton position. Connie Smale will shadow her to see that she learns the job responsibilities. Pastor Melber will offer her \$12 per hour with reviews at 30 days and later as needed, with a potential rate increase at 90 days. Rolf offered to sit in on the review sessions. The position calls for 10 hours per week, and these hours will be in addition to the hours Stacy works as Secretary.

- Because Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, discussion was held how best to handle services on this day in conjunction with St. John's. It is also the fourth Sunday of Advent. It was decided to start the 9:00 a.m. service normally, with a transition into a Christmas Eve service. We will then hold a 5:30 Christmas Eve service. St.John's will hold a service at 7:30. Pastor Melber will share this at the next Parish meeting. There will not be a 3:00 Christmas Eve service.
- Jackie made a motion to approve the Pastor's mileage, seconded by Sandy. Motion carried.

Ongoing and Unfinished Business – None.

Personnel Concerns – Already discussed in Pastor's report.

Council Member Responsibilities for June

Ushers: - Donna McGarry, Pearl Eckhart, Sandy Christman (plus one additional person)

Chalice Bearers: Sandy Christman

Communion: June 11 (since Pastor will be away June 4)

Council Devotions: Frank Hall

Building Finance Steward: Donna McGarry

Committees

Finance- No report

Music & Worship – No report

Christian Ed – No report

Fellowship

- Sandy and Pearl will continue providing refreshments for fellowship after church services through the summer as needed.
- Plans are continuing for the September 17 fellowship dinner. The committee hopes to utilize funds budgeted for fellowship to cover the dinner costs, with the goal that there will be no fee to people attending the dinner. We will have limited seating and will offer reservations on a first-come, first-served basis with a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Building & Maintenance

- On motion by Donna, second by Sandy and voice vote, the Council approved purchase
 of a double-hung window for the Secretary's office at a cost of \$764. This will improve
 heat and air conditioning in the office. On the request of Bobby, the cost will come from
 Susie's memorial funds.
- Rolf changed our electric supplier to Direct Energy. The rate will be fixed at 11.99/kwh, with no cancellation fee. This is the best plan for our Church rather than an adjustable rate plan.
- The Committee is getting quotes for improvements to the grove lower bathroom and any necessary electric service changes in the grove.
- Kistler O'Brien inspected our fire extinguishers. Several need to be upgraded and one needs replacement.

Outreach - Sandy and Joan Altemose continue sending cards.

Mutual Ministry - Next meeting is June 6.

Evangelism - Bobby is reaching out by phone.

WELCA - Thanks to everyone to helpe with the Persian donut sale. Over 1,400 were sold.

New Business - None

Other Items for the Good of the Church - None.

Next Meeting – June 15, 2023

Adjournment & Lords Prayer – On motion by Pastor Ken, second by Donna McGarry and voice vote, the meting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McGarry Church Council Secretary

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2023

Attending the meeting: Wanda George, Pearl Eckhart, Robert Ziegenfus, Rolf Windhorn, Frank Hall, Delbert Christman, Sandy Christman, Jackie Brotzman and Melanie Windhorn.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM.

Pastor Ken stated that the only application for the Sexton position was from Stacy Buchiane. He stated that Rolf and he met with Stacy to go over the Sexton position duties and interview her. Pastor Ken and Rolf are recommending hiring Stacy. He said there will be a 30-day review and a 90-day review, which at that time, a recommendation could be made for an increase in the hourly rate. For now, the rate will be \$12.00/hour with a maximum of 10 hours/week and no benefits. Stacy will pick the days she will work. It was requested that she not clean on the days she is in the office. She will begin as Sexton on Monday, June 5, 2023.

A question was asked as to who will train her and who will shadow her? Pastor said Connie Smale, Stacy and he will work together on the training. He also said that Shirley Craig may be willing to train Stacy. Pastor Ken said that as per her resume, Stacy has previous cleaning experience and therefore, he felt that she does not need to be shadowed.

Stacy will be the Sexton for weddings and funerals and Shirley Craig will be the backup person. If there is an event on a day that is her secretarial day, then the backup person would need to cover the event.

Robert Ziegenfus made a motion to hire Stacy Buchiane as the Sexton. Delbert Christman seconded. All in favor.

Melanie Windhorn advised that the check from The Douglas Youngkin Estate was received. It is approximately \$66,400. After discussion on where to deposit the funds, (First Northern Money Market or Thrivent Accounts) Jackie Brotzman made a motion to deposit the check in the Thrivent Money Market Account for now until Council can decide where to further invest the funds. Sandy seconded the motion. All in favor.

Melanie also advised Council that Carol O'Brien will be out for a while. Carol asked Melanie to fill-in for her with the weekly deposits until she returns.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM

Respectfully submitted by

Melanie H. Windhorn

Treasurer

Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

SEPTEIMBER2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri	iday	Saturday
,	•	•	•	•	1		2
3 Worship Service w/ Communion – 9:00 AM	HAPPY LABOR *DAY*	5 WELCA meeting – 12:30 PM	6	7	8		9
Worship Service – 9:00 AM Donut orders due	11 9-11 PATRIOT DAY	12	13	14 Mutual Ministry Meeting	15		16
17 Worship Service – 9:00 AM Fellowship after service Fellowship Fellowship Dinner – 5:00 PM	18 CONSTITUTION DAY 17 SEPTEMBER	19 Make Icing for Donuts	20	Persian Donuts made – 6:00 AM Persian Donut pick up- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Council meeting – 7:00 PM	22		1st Day Of Fall
24 Worship Service – 9:00 AM	25	26 IT'S NATIONAL	27	28	29		30
		LOVE PEOPLE DAY arcalisated	NATIONAL GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY			Rev. Ke	oral service contact enneth Melber at: :484-629-2812

Cell:484-629-2812 Church office: 610-681-5200

TODAY

This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good.

What I do today is important, because I'm exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it.

I want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil; success, not failure, in order that I shall not regret the price I paid.

-Author Unknown