



Trinity Together

Trinity Lutheran Church

357 West Main Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

October 2022

Transitional Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Dennis Ritter	484-529-7801	dsritter@ptd.net
Director of Youth & Family Ministry: Seth Noggle	570-529-2325	Seth.noggle@gmail.com
Editor/Administrative Assistant: Diane Spohn	610-683-3450	office@trinitykutztown.com
Director of Music: Bruce Rohrbach	610-683-9496	brhrbch@hometownnu.com
Tech & Media Specialist: Brandon Wood	484-629-9332	bwood2016@gmail.com
Financial Secretary: Mike Sailsbery	412-849-5255	finsectrinity@hotmail.com
Giving Bookkeeper: Lisa Finke	610-349-2325	lmfinke@msn.com
Bachelor of Social Work Intern: Rachel Saienni	610-470-8437	rachelsaienni@gmail.com

Mission Statement:

“The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to equip God’s people to do God’s work and bring good news to hungry people.”

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Phone: 610-683-3450

Website: www.trinitykutztown.com

Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 AM

Adult Sunday School at 8:00 AM

Good News Club at 8:30 AM

2022 Church Council Members

Jeff Collier	Property
Joseph Jedwab	Christian Education
Mary Neuenschwander	Personnel
Dan Raudenbush	Treasurer, Finance and Stewardship
Kurt Rohrbach	Vice President, Endowment
Michael Sailsbery	Financial Secretary
Ann Towne	President, Mission/Service and Fellowship
Jean Wagner	Worship Life
Alicia Wood	Secretary, Witness/Communication

From the Pastor...

Dear Disciples in Christ,

*What follows is an interesting connection between **addiction and scarcity** that has implications with respect to our being good stewards of God's many blessings. I came across it in an online stewardship publication I receive and am sharing it as my letter this month. It was written by a seminarian who is a recovering alcoholic. I hope you find it thought provoking.*

I'm an alcoholic. I haven't had a drink in many years. I believe that by the power of God and with the supportive people in recovery, I have been taught how to live. Quitting drinking wasn't the only issue—I needed to learn how to live without drinking.

Though I've been sober a number of years, I learn something new about addiction and recovery every year. Normally when I'm trying to learn something else, I am opened up to new ways of seeing how addiction has played a part in my life. Recently at Luther Seminary, I was in Grace Pomroy's class "Money and Mission of the Church." We were discussing scarcity and abundance.

In our reading for that class, Walter Brueggemann caught my attention with his *Christian Century* article: "The Liturgy of Abundance, the Myth of Scarcity." Brueggemann writes, "Because Pharaoh, like Hitler after him, is afraid that there aren't enough good things to go around, he must try to have them all. Because he is fearful, he is ruthless. Pharaoh hires Joseph to manage the monopoly. When the crops fail and the peasants run out of food, they come to Joseph. And on behalf of Pharaoh, Joseph says, 'What's your collateral?' They give up their land for food, and then, the next year, they give up their cattle. By the third year of the famine they have no collateral but themselves. And that's how the children of Israel become slaves -- through an economic transaction." I was astounded because this is exactly how addiction works.

Whatever we are addicted to takes us piece by piece until we become its slave. This notion of scarcity—the fear of not having enough—pulls and pulls us into this myth of scarcity. I hadn't ever thought of scarcity playing a role in addiction until I was reading Brueggemann.

When I started drinking, I wasn't automatically an alcoholic. I became an addict in much the same way the Israelites became slaves. You see, when I drank, I felt like I was a different person; I felt like I fit in; I felt like I was finally enough. So, I'd go back to my addiction, and it would ask, "What's your collateral?" And I'd pay by giving up some time with my friends. Then, I'd go back and be asked again, "What's your collateral?" As years went by, I gave up money, I gave up time with my family, I gave up values, I gave, and I gave. I could never sate my addiction; I couldn't get enough, so I kept giving and giving until—just like the Israelites—my addiction had all of me and I was a slave.

When I was in active addiction, I didn't understand that I was enough exactly the way I was; I didn't understand that God was all about abundance. Just like Israel learning to trust God that there was enough, I had to learn to trust God that I was enough. I needed to trust that I was made through the grace of God's abundance.

Eventually I learned, I am enough.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Ritter

Author Bio: Mort Meyenburg is a Luther Seminary student currently serving as a synod authorized minister at Healing Waters Parish in SWMN ELCA Synod with three churches: Augustana Lutheran in Clarkfield, Bergen Lutheran in rural Granite Falls, and St. Lucas Lutheran in rural Cottonwood. Meyerburg is grateful for the gift of sobriety these past 26 years.



Schedule & Volunteers

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

Oct. 2	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
Oct. 9	9:30 AM	Dan Neuenschwander
Oct. 16	9:30 AM	Susan Mangold
Oct. 23	9:30 AM	Dan Raudenbush
Oct. 30	9:30 AM	Joseph Jedwab

LAY READERS:

Oct. 2	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
Oct. 9	9:30 AM	Susan Ritter
Oct. 16	9:30 AM	Susan Mangold
Oct. 23	9:30 AM	Dan Raudenbush
Oct. 30	9:30 AM	Alice Kutz

ACOLYTES:

Oct. 2	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
Oct. 9	9:30 AM	Liam Miller
Oct. 16	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
Oct. 23	9:30 AM	Liam Miller
Oct. 30	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab

USHERS/GREETERS:

Oct. 2	9:30 AM	Joseph and Nargiza Jedwab
Oct. 9	9:30 AM	Alan and Rita Robertson
Oct. 16	9:30 AM	Ed and April Rakowiecki
Oct. 23	9:30 AM	Alice Kutz and Donna Keglovits
Oct. 30	9:30 AM	Dan and David Neuenschwander

TECH COORDINATORS:

Oct. 2	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab and Brandon Wood
Oct. 9	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab and Brandon Wood
Oct. 16	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab and Brandon Wood
Oct. 23	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab and Brandon Wood
Oct. 30	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab and Brandon Wood

MONEY COUNTERS: Michele Zimmerman and Linda Geiring

FLOWER CHAIRPERSON: Darlene Dietrich

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Susan Ritter and Debbie Ziegler

IMPORTANT DATES:

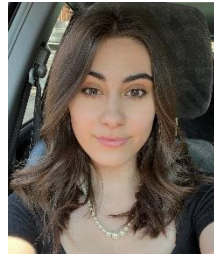
First Responders Month

October 2 World Communion

October 9 Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday

October 30 Reformation

Meet Our KU Intern Rachel Saienni..



Rachel is currently a student at Kutztown University, with a major in social work and minors in case management and sociology. While in school, she lives here in Kutztown, but she is originally from New London, a town in Chester County.

Rachel serves as an intern for the church, assisting in operating the Kutztown Kitchen, as well as other events hosted by the church and by surrounding organizations.

Committee Meeting Dates...

Church Council	Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.
Worship Life	Wednesday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m.
Congregational Care	Thursday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m.

From the Church Office...

The church office hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The office is closed on Mondays.

Deadline for articles for the November newsletter is Monday, October 17th.

Christian Education...

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School Class welcomes you to join us in enjoying "God's Exceptional Choice," a program that invites us to see how God reconciles all creation to God's self and how God chooses us to play a role in that work. We just considered the arc of the Bible from our fall in the Garden of Eden to partnership with God in New Jerusalem. Now we will look at how God works through chosen people, some strong and others flawed. We conclude by seeing how the Holy Spirit equips us to carry the message of God's peace into the world. Rev. Chip

(continued)

Bouzard and Rev. Julia Seymour will guide us to see how the arc becomes complete as God reconciles all creation. Please join us Sundays at 8:00 am in the Parlor for discussion, coffee and fellowship.

Bible Study

Bible Study is on Thursdays at 10:00 AM. You can join the Bible study group in-person or on Zoom. To join the group electronically use the Zoom platform. Here's the Zoom link to click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84530518506> To dial-in by phone, call this number: 1 301-715-8592. Then, when you are prompted, enter this Meeting ID number: 845 3051 8506. No other password is needed.

Good News Club!

The Good News Club, our Sunday School Ministry, meets on Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. We invite our Kindergarten through 5th Grade friends to join us as we look forward to another great year of learning and growing together!

Rejoicing Spirits – A New Ecumenical Community Ministry...

The first Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service is at 3:00 on Sunday, October 2, 2022 at St. Paul's UCC, 47 S. Whiteoak Street, Kutztown, PA 19530. All are welcome at this no-shush worship that enriches the lives of all people, especially those with disabilities. Rejoicing Spirits includes music and joyous singing, brief, meaningful messages and the chance to connect with others. Learn more at rejoicingspirits.org or contact: Karen Raudenbush- email: raudyk@gmail.com or phone: 610-608-8290.

Welcoming New Members...

On Sunday, October 30 at its 9:30 AM worship, Trinity will welcome new members into its fellowship. Anyone who is interested in becoming a member at that time is encouraged to contact the church office or Pastor Ritter as soon as possible.

From the Finance Committee...

Approved 2022 Budget --	\$323,495
Unrestricted income through Aug.	\$169,635
Expenditures through Aug.	\$175,125
Balance through Aug.	\$(5,490)
Average monthly offering	\$ 22,873

* () will indicate a deficit

Sponsors needed...

Altar Flowers

There are two Sundays in 2022 that do not have altar flower sponsors. The dates still available are:

October 9 October 16

If you are interested in sponsoring the flowers for any of these dates please contact Darlene Dietrich at 610-683-7975 or the church office at 610-683-3450.

Upcoming Worship Opportunities...

Blessing of the Animals

There will be a Blessing of the Animals on October 9th at 2:00 p.m. on the side lawn by Baldy Street. In the event of inclement weather, we will move inside to the Fellowship Hall.

All Saints Sunday

Plans are in the works to remember those individuals who have died in the Lord since last All Saints Sunday. The remembrance is scheduled for **Sunday, November 6 at Trinity's 9:30 AM worship**. The families of individuals who died during the year will be invited to be present that morning and to come forward to light a candle in memory of their loved one. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of other departed saints of God. In addition, those who were baptized in the past year will also be recognized.

Youth News...

October Schedule for our Youth Groups

My E-mail is seth.noggle@gmail.com if you would like to E-mail me and ask to be on the youth group list. That's the best way to be updated on Youth Group activities.

Oct. 2nd – at St. John's

Middle & High School Youth Group
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Oct. 9th – at Trinity

Elementary Youth Group
Time: 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Oct. 16th – No scheduled youth group

Oct. 23rd – at St. John's

Middle & High School Youth Group
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Oct. 30th – at Trinity

Middle & High School Youth Group
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Upcoming Events...

Potato Project Rescheduled!

Due to the inclement weather on the originally scheduled date, the Potato Project Harvest has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 2. It will take place at the Kutztown University Heritage Center from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please join us if you can help for part of the afternoon.

Kutztown Kitchen

The next Kutztown Kitchen community meal will be on Sunday, October 23, from 4-6:00 p.m. For questions or to request a ride or delivery, please call 610-683-3450 or 484-239-5314.

Dedicatory Organ Concert

The postponed dedicatory rite for our new Allen digital organ will take place on **Sunday, October 30 at 3:00 PM** and will be followed by a concert featuring our own Director of Music, Bruce Rohrbach, the Kutztown Community Choir and Trinity Church Choir under the direction of Adam Rabenold, the Kutztown University Trombone Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Daniel Neuenschwander and other guest artists. A freewill offering will be received and a time for light refreshments and fellowship will follow. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. Bring a friend(s).

How You Can Help...

Kutztown Kitchen

"Feed my sheep." – John 21:17. We need helpers for Kutztown Kitchen through the end of the year. Will you consider lending a few hours to this mission to help feed hungry people? Talk to Ann Towne, sign up on the office door, or scan QR code and sign up on Signup Genius. Dates: Oct. 23, Nov. 27, and Dec. 18.



Fall Attic Outlet

Time to clean out your closets? Think of the Fall Attic Outlet! Dates are: Friday, October 14, 6-8:00 PM, Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Friday, October 21, 6-8:00 PM, and Saturday, October 22, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM. **Help is needed to set up starting on Tuesday, October 11th, at 9 a.m.** and also on the sale days and to pack up. Clothing especially is appreciated, as well as household items and shoes. Please no furniture, TV's or computers. Any questions, please call Darlene Dietrich at 610-683-7975.

Friend, Inc. Holiday Boxes

We will be participating in the Holiday Box Project that Friend, Inc. has every Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Below is a list of items that can be purchased for each box, but this is a general guideline so if there is something you would like to substitute or add please feel free. Each family will receive a turkey along with the box. Also, if you would like to decorate the box you are encouraged to do so.

Items that can be included are as follows:

- 2 Cans of Sweet Potatoes**
- 2 Cans of Cranberry Sauce**
- 2 Cans of Different Vegetables**
- Large Can of Fruit Juice**
- Box or Bag of Stuffing Mix**
- Bag of Apples (may substitute applesauce)**
- Bag of Potatoes (may substitute canned potatoes or mashed potatoes)**
- Can of Fruit Cocktail**
- Cookies**
- 1 Can of Coffee or Cocoa**
- Holiday Napkins**

Thanksgiving boxes need to be delivered to Trinity by **November 13th** and Christmas boxes need to be delivered to Trinity by **December 11th**. If you are unable to purchase the items, but would still like to help out, gift cards from local grocery stores would also be appreciated by Friend, Inc. The gift cards can be dropped off at the church office before the due dates.

Student Food Pantry at KU

Thank you to everyone who has contributed time, groceries, and cash donations to this ministry. If you would like to contribute food items, please see the list below...

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Peanut Butter | Juice |
| Miscellaneous Snacks | Crackers |
| Knorr Side Dish Packets | Cereal |
| Instant Potato Packets | Breakfast Bars |
| Toiletries | Mac 'n Cheese |
| Soup | Tuna |
| Canned Fruits & Veggies | Pasta |

There is a box outside of the Parlor for the items you are donating. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the church office.

Be an Oasis for Middle and High School Students

Oasis is a non-profit after-school program that's based out of Bethel Nazarene Church found just off of Noble Street behind the Kutztown Middle School. This program has been running for around 7 years and provides a safe and fun place for kids to attend after school.

How can I help?

We're in need of some more Kutztown Strong people to help out at this program and to build relationships with the youth of Kutztown. The program runs every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3-5:00 p.m. It's only a 2-hour commitment, and it can make a lifetime of change for some of these kids.

If interested, please contact Paul Maninno at: supermannino@yahoo.com or cell phone 610-944-4664.

This is important, you can make a difference just by being there for a student. Please reach out to Paul and volunteer. Say yes.

Sincerely,
Kutztown Strong Board

Flag Retirement Box...

Trinity is a designated collection point for ready to be retired flags, sponsored by the Scouts of Kutztown. If you have a flag to be retired, please place it in the labeled wooden box across from the office.

Thank You!!!

Thank you to everyone at Trinity!

A huge thank you to the church council, Pastor Ritter and all of the folks that helped to pull off my very surprising celebration!

The sneaky God has blessed this old “coal cracker” way beyond what anyone, especially me, could begin to imagine! The most amazing blessing is having such an awesome life partner for 50 years!

Being in ministry with all of you over the years has also been a huge catalyst on my faith journey which I am most grateful for.

I hope we can continue to be open to where our Sneaky God is challenging us to go as together we ask ourselves and each other, “What would Jesus do?”

Blessings,
Terry Lieb

~~~~~  
To the Church Council, Pastor Ritter, and the whole congregation:

Thank you so much for surprising me with a celebration of my 60<sup>th</sup> year of ordination. I really didn't anticipate anything, and therefore was easily surprised.

I do in particular appreciate the contributions to Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services in my honor. They are two mission expressions of our Lutheran Church that Carolyn and I have been supporting for many years. Also, we are very grateful for the gift card given for us to enjoy a time out for dinner.

Trinity has been, and continues to be, a community of faith reaching out to others in so many ways, and you do well to encourage and celebrate ministries of the members. It was special that the celebration was for the two of us, Terry and me, and to think that together we make up a century of ministry.

I thank God for you, and for all the good work for the Gospel that happens through Trinity's Expressions of Faith.

Pastor Richard Miller

## **Community Events...**

### **Young At Heart Seniors**

Young at Heart Seniors meets every third Wednesday of the month at St. Paul's UCC, 47 South Whiteoak Street, Kutztown. Join us to hear speakers, crafts, speakers and refreshments. For more information, call Barbara at 610-683-3393 or via email at [office@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:office@stpaulskutztown.org)

### **Volunteer Reading Tutors needed for Ready.Set.READ! Program**

Help make a difference in a child's life! Volunteers are needed to tutor students at the District-Topton Elementary School on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:20 PM, Greenwich-Lenhartsville and Kutztown Elementary Schools on Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 PM during the 2022-23 school year. No previous teaching experience is required. This opportunity is for anyone interested in volunteering 1 hour each week from October through

*(continued)*

May. Background clearances are required and training provided. Please contact Darby Wiekrykas at United Way 610-685-4574 or [darbyw@uwberks.org](mailto:darbyw@uwberks.org)

### **Friend, Inc. 2021 Benefit Auction**

What can you create with that old dresser discovered at the flea market? Friend, Inc. is looking for artists, creatives and craftsmen to flip furniture items to competitively auction at our 2023 Benefit auction. Here's your chance to have fun for a good cause with a little friendly rivalry thrown in for good measure. If you are interested in becoming a “Friendly Flipper” call 610-683-9012 and talk to Jim. The contest will end on auction night April 29, 2023!

## ***Lutheran World Relief Donations at Work in Uganda...***

Suzan Nzabake toiled on her farm, day in and day out, trying to grow coffee and vanilla the best way she knew how. But the flowers kept dropping off her plants before the fruit had a chance to develop, making her harvests too small to keep her family fed.

As a result, Suzan and her extended family of eight went to bed hungry every night on the floor of a small mud shack. Stuck in extreme poverty, hunger created a domino effect on her family, leaving Suzan's children without the strength and energy to succeed in school. Their diminished immune systems left the children vulnerable to life-threatening illnesses – and less likely to survive.

Suzan would often eat just once a day so her children could eat twice. She was so weak from hunger, when she recently came down with malaria, it took a very long time for her to recover.

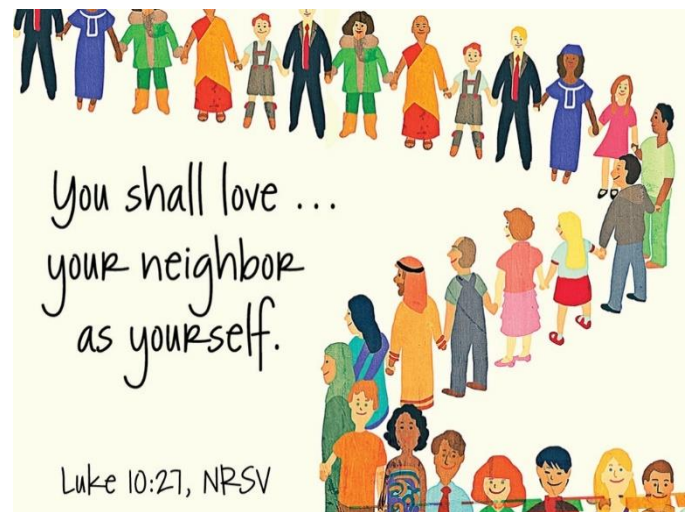
Suzan prayed fervently for a better future. “The Bible says you should ask God for what you desire,” she explained. “And I prayed that he would bless me through my land.”

Your love answered Suzan's prayers with emergency food, as well as the tools and knowledge she needed to help her crops – and her family – thrive. Your generosity introduced Suzan to vermicomposting (the use of earthworms to convert organic waste into fertilizer) to treat her plants and keep them healthy.

Today, Suzan's family not only has enough to eat, but her income and her hope for the future have both risen exponentially.

As Suzan explains, “I really see that God is answering our prayers. My children no longer cry all the time. They no longer get admitted to the hospital. Today, I have peace knowing that I have friends overseas who love me. That's why I keep praying to God to uplift them.”

Your far-reaching love is ensuring Suzan can feed her children so they are healthy enough to succeed in school and reach their full potential in life.





October 2022

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                             | Tuesday                                                                  | Wednesday                                          | Thursday                                                                                      | Friday                           | Saturday                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>25</b><br>8:00am Adult Sunday School<br>8:30am Good News Club<br>9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom)<br>4:00pm Kutztown Kitchen Community Meal                                                                                                                                                              | <b>26</b><br>Office Closed                                         | <b>27</b>                                                                | <b>28</b>                                          | <b>29</b><br>10:00am Bible Study<br>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal                                    | <b>30</b>                        | <b>1</b>                         |
| <b>2</b><br>8:00am Adult Sunday School<br>8:30am Good News Club<br>9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom)<br>10:45am Confirmation Class<br>1:00pm Potato Project Harvest - KU Heritage Center<br>3:00pm Rejoicing Spirits Worship Service at St. Paul's UCC<br>6:00pm Middle/High School Youth Group - St. John's | <b>3</b><br>Office Closed                                          | <b>4</b>                                                                 | <b>5</b>                                           | <b>6</b><br>10:00am Bible Study                                                               | <b>7</b>                         | <b>8</b>                         |
| <b>9</b><br>8:00am Adult Sunday School<br>8:30am Good News Club<br>9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom)<br>10:45am Confirmation Class<br>2:00pm Blessing of the Animals Service<br>4:30pm Elementary School Youth Group - Trinity                                                                               | <b>10</b><br>Office Closed                                         | <b>11</b><br>9:00am Attic Outlet Set-Up Begins<br>7:00pm Council Meeting | <b>12</b><br>7:00pm Worship Life Committee Meeting | <b>13</b><br>10:00am Bible Study<br>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal                                    | <b>14</b><br>6:00pm Attic Outlet | <b>15</b><br>9:00am Attic Outlet |
| <b>16</b><br>8:00am Adult Sunday School<br>8:30am Good News Club<br>9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom)<br>10:45am Confirmation Class                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>17</b><br>Articles due for November newsletter<br>Office Closed | <b>18</b>                                                                | <b>19</b>                                          | <b>20</b><br>10:00am Bible Study<br>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal                                    | <b>21</b><br>6:00pm Attic Outlet | <b>22</b><br>9:00am Attic Outlet |
| <b>23</b><br>8:00am Adult Sunday School<br>8:30am Good News Club<br>9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom)<br>10:45am Confirmation Class<br>4:00pm Kutztown Kitchen Community Meal<br>6:00pm Middle/High School Youth Group - St. John's                                                                          | <b>24</b><br>Office Closed                                         | <b>25</b>                                                                | <b>26</b>                                          | <b>27</b><br>10:00am Bible Study<br>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm Congregational Care Team | <b>28</b>                        | <b>29</b>                        |



# OCTOBER

## Birthdays

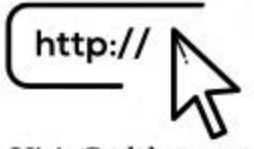
| MONDAY                                                   | MONDAY                                                                 | TUESDAY                              | WEDNESDAY                              | THURSDAY                           | FRIDAY                                 | SATURDAY                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                                          |                                                                        |                                      |                                        |                                    |                                        | 1                                    |
| 2<br>Zachary Schearer                                    | 3<br>William W. Yoder<br>Adam Petersen                                 | 4<br>Rita Robertson<br>Tina Dietrich | 5                                      | 6                                  | 7<br>Gayle Von Bergen                  | 8<br>Matthew Finke                   |
| 9<br>Diane Jensen<br>Chuck Shurr<br>Susan (Kristi) Wells | 10                                                                     | 11                                   | 12<br>Victoria Kunkle<br>Bennett Finke | 13                                 | 14<br>Matthew Ziegler<br>Denise Yerger | 15<br>Sarah Kyle<br>Gabriella Parker |
| 16<br>Cindy Wlazelek<br>Angie Fegley<br>Parker Keglovits | 17<br>Sarah Kohler<br>Robert Hobaugh                                   | 18<br>Amy Keeney                     | 19                                     | 20<br>Alyssa Wentzel               | 21<br>Douglas Heffner<br>Colin Matz    | 22<br>Debra Kenney<br>Gary Mangold   |
| 23<br>Kurt Rohrbach<br>Zachary Ziegler                   | 24<br>Miriam Guldin<br>Mary Ryan<br>Hannah Nicholson<br>Gabriel Yerger | 25                                   | 26<br>Abigail Ziegler                  | 27<br>Ted Kelchner<br>Amy Petersen | 28                                     | 29<br>Arlo Collier                   |
| 30                                                       | 31<br>Liz Shrawder                                                     |                                      |                                        |                                    |                                        |                                      |

# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

🔍 What's happening in NEPA Synod? ✕

Bishop Conference 2022...  
 Synod Assembly 2023...  
 Going Beyond...  
 Stronger Together...  
 Growing Young...  
 Learning Ministries Day 23...



Visit [Godslove.org](http://Godslove.org)  
 for up-to-date  
 happenings  
 around the synod

*Synod Assembly*

**GO BEYOND  
 WITH US  
 IN-PERSON!!**

**KALAHARI  
 POCONOS**

**JUNE  
 1-3  
 2023**

**GOING BEYOND  
 2023**

**WORSHIP  
 Play  
 CONNECT  
 Lead**

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Presents:

**BISHOP'S  
 CONFERENCE 2022**

*Featuring*

Center for  
 Congregational  
 Health

November 14 & 15  
 Americus Hotel  
 555 Hamilton St  
 Allentown, PA



# \* 2023 Update on Portico Health Rates & Plan Changes

ELCA-Primary health contribution baseline rate will increase 3%, the same rate increase as last year, which was the lowest in eight years.

The 3% increase also applies to sponsored members receiving the ELCA Medicare-Primary health benefit Standard option. ELCA-Primary Gold+ option deductibles will increase to \$1,500 for member only, \$2,250 for member and child(ren) and \$3,000 for member and spouse or member, spouse, and child(ren). Coinsurance, out-of-pocket limits and prescription drug cost-share will not change.



## \* Prepare for 2023 Annual Enrollment

As you prepare to make selections in October, keep these things in mind: Sponsoring employers (congregations and organizations) will select the option they will offer their employees Oct. 3-14. Your registered EmployerLink user can access the 2023 Decision Guide and their Custom Comparison Report to help determine 2023 costs and options. Note: any organization that does not make a selection will be assigned Silver+ (A) to offer their plan members the ability to choose the coverage that works best for them. Sponsored members, watch for an email from Portico with specific information about 2023 Annual Enrollment, including when your selection period will be open.



# Save the Date!