



Trinity Together

Trinity Lutheran Church

357 West Main Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

November 2023

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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 8:00 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 and Journey to Adulthood/Confirmation after worship

2023 Church Council Members

Jeff Collier

Property

Joseph Jedwab

Christian Education

Jessica Miller

Treasurer, Finance and Stewardship

Mary Neuenschwander

Personnel

Ed Rakowiecki

Vice President, Personnel

Dan Raudenbush

President, Endowment

Ann Towne

Mission/Service

Jean Wagner

Worship Life

Alicia Wood

Secretary, Fellowship

From the Pastor...

Dear Disciples in Christ,

“My husband and I recently purchased a house in Allyn, WA and we have been working over the last few months to make that house a home. We weeded the yard, painted the walls, purchased tools for the garage, and put away countless boxes of stuff we didn’t know we had. The concept of ownership is a key part of the home buying process. We were reminded again and again that this house was “ours,” all of the boxes of stuff were “ours,” even the walls we painted were “ours” and we could decide what to do with them.

But these things aren’t really ours, they are God’s. Every part of this house, every part of our new community, every part of me belongs to God. Even though I believe this and know it to be true, I often need to be reminded, especially in seasons like this. I’ll admit that I still don’t know all of what this change in mindset and ownership will mean for our house. How is God calling us to steward well God’s house, God’s tools, God’s walls? I’m not exactly sure yet, but I don’t want to shy away from the discomfort of sitting with that question.” – Grace Pomeroy, *Director of Luther Seminary’s Stewardship Leaders Program*

I don’t know about you but Grace Pomeroy strikes close to home for me (pun not intended) when she asks the question, “Who is really the owner of all that we usually call ours?” So often we forget that all we have and think of as our own or of our own making/earning is really God’s. During the first 3 Sundays of November, we will be looking at what it might mean for us to live believing that God is the owner of all that we call ours corporately and individually.

On November 5th we will hear the words of Jesus teaching us about what it means to be blessed.

On November 12th as we gather to celebrate the baptism of Quinn and Rebecca Giligan’s infant daughter, we will be invited to reflect upon what makes one wise or foolish.

Finally, on November 19th, Consecration Sunday, we will be reminded that it isn’t sufficient to just maintain what we have been given but to make good use of the gifts God has given to us, corporately and personally. Those in attendance will be invited to make their commitment towards supporting the work of Trinity in 2024 as we seek to embrace God’s future for our congregation and each of us individually.

In preparation for these weeks of learning and reflection, you will be receiving a commitment card and a brochure highlighting our goals for next year. There are three.

1. *Embracing God’s Future* – which means ensuring that we provide the appropriate resources and support as Vicar Seth Noggle and our new staff configuration and members enter into their new roles of leadership.
2. *Praising God through Inspiring Worship* – which means that along with our staff and volunteer worship leaders we will not only maintain a tradition of inspirational worship, but also add new elements to what has been done in the past that will inform and inspire our service in the community and beyond.
3. *Growing Young and Strengthening our Fellowship* – which means that we will purposefully incorporate in our teams and mentor the next generations of disciples in Christ so that they can share more fully in the mission of Trinity and other congregations where they may become members.

Vicar Seth and I invite you to join us over these next weeks as we gather to offer our praise, prayers and thanksgivings to the God who has given us all that we call our own and invites us to use our gifts as a blessing to others.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ritter



Schedule & Volunteers

Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 5!

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

Nov. 5	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
Nov. 12	9:30 AM	Susan Mangold
Nov. 19	9:30 AM	Carolyn Miller
Nov. 26	9:30 AM	Louise DeVall

LAY READERS:

Nov. 5	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
Nov. 12	9:30 AM	Susan Mangold
Nov. 19	9:30 AM	Carolyn Miller
Nov. 26	9:30 AM	Louise DeVall

ACOLYTES:

Nov. 5	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
Nov. 12	9:30 AM	Liam Miller
Nov. 19	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
Nov. 26	9:30 AM	Liam Miller

USHERS/GREETERS:

Nov. 5	9:30 AM	April and Ed Rakowiecki
Nov. 12	9:30 AM	Alice Kutz and Melanie Wessner
Nov. 19	9:30 AM	Molly and Dan Dubbs
Nov. 26	9:30 AM	Susan Krause & Donna Keglovits

MONEY COUNTERS: Steve Finke and Melanie Wessner

FLOWER CHAIRPERSON: Michele Zimmerman

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Rita Robertson and Donna Keglovits

IMPORTANT DATES:

Nov. 5	All Saints' Sunday
Nov. 11	Veterans Day
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 26	Christ the King Sunday

Committee Meeting Dates...

Worship Life	Tuesday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m.
Finance Committee	Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m.
Church Council	Tuesday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m.

From the Church Office...

Deadline for articles for the December newsletter is Tuesday, November 14th.

From the Finance Committee...

Approved 2023 Budget -- \$339,983

Unrestricted income through Sep.	\$174,540
Expenditures through Sep.	\$226,044
Balance through Sep.	\$(51,504)
Average monthly offering	\$ 18,579

Christian Education...

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School Class welcomes you to join us in enjoying "God's Law is Love," a program that invites us to bridge the gap between Old Testament law and New Testament love. We will explore the struggle in New Testament texts with the significance of Mosaic law for those who trust in and love Jesus Christ. Jesus shows us how compassion is always essential when interpreting the law. First, we will look at Luke and John to see Jesus' roots in the justice and love of God; and compassion versus rigorous application of law. Second, we will see in Paul's epistles to Romans and Galatians the justification by faith, and how the law tells us what to do but not how to do it. Third, we consider in Acts, Corinthians, Romans and Colossians, the fulfillment of law in the commandment to love, and the revelation of God in Christ. Rev. Phil Ruge-Jones, an ELCA pastor in Wisconsin who recounts the gospel of Mark from memory, will help us understand how the expansion of the good news causes us to rethink our relationship to the law. Please join us Sundays at 8:00 am in the Parlor for discussion, coffee and fellowship.

Good News Club & Journey to Adulthood

The Sunday Schools for youth are after Church from 10:45-11:45AM. The Good News Club is for grades Pre-K thru 5th grade and our Journey to Adulthood/Confirmation Class starts in 6th grade. We would love to see you!

Bible Study

Bible Study is on Thursdays at 10:00 AM. **They are led by either Pr. Ritter or Seth Noggle and are based on the upcoming Sunday's scripture reading(s).** 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.

Upcoming Worship Opportunities...

All Saints Sunday

The service to remember those individuals who have been baptized since last All Saints Sunday or who have died in the Lord since last All Saints Sunday is scheduled for **Sunday, November 5th, at 9:30 AM.** The families of individuals who have been baptized or who have died during the year have been invited to be present and to come forward to light a candle in honor or memory of their loved one. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of other departed saints of God.

Upcoming Events...

Sunday Fun Day on November 12th

Mark your calendars for this all-ages Church event! This will take place right after church and lunch will be provided. This will be a chance to get to know our congregation and talk to the people we sit with every Sunday. The hope is to have all ages mingling and getting to know each other better. We'll have inclusive games for all ages and great food!

Eagle Scout Award Ceremony

Trinity's very own Will DeVall is being honored at Trinity on November 19th for his amazing accomplishment in becoming an Eagle Scout. We are encouraging Trinity members to come out and show him our support and love for his exciting achievement. The service will take place at 2:00 PM in the Trinity sanctuary.

Church Decorating

After church on November 26th, we are going to decorate our sanctuary for Advent! Our Advent theme this year is "The Gift of Being Present." We will have the classic church decorations, but we'll also fill our church with wrapped Christmas presents to fit our theme. We could use help, and this is a great way to prepare ourselves for the upcoming Christmas season. Lunch will be provided for anyone who sticks around to help!

Kutztown Kitchen

The next Kutztown Kitchen community meal will be on Sunday, November 26th, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. The menu is chicken and veggies, drink and dessert. For questions or to request delivery, please call Ann Towne at 484-239-5314 or the church office.

Advent Workshop

Our annual Advent Workshop will be taking place on the evening of December 3rd. This is an all-ages event where you can make an advent wreath to help you commemorate the Advent season. We end with an Advent Spiral, which is a prayer practice that helps us step into this season on the right foot. Dinner is provided!

Ping Pong Club

A new ping pong club for youth is meeting downstairs on Friday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. Please talk to Isaac Jedwab if you are interested or have any questions.



Mark your calendar for the Phase I Congregational Meeting to be held December 10th. More information to follow!

Rejoicing Spirits Ecumenical Community Ministry...

The next Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service is at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 5, 2023, 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. We meet the first Sunday of every month at 3:00 pm at St. Paul's UCC, Kutztown. For more information, contact: Charlene Fisher (charf1sh@verizon.net, 610-223-9822) or Erin Webb (emwebb05@aol.com, 610-894-9949)

Flower Sponsors...

A flower chart for 2024 will soon be posted on the bulletin board. Flowers for all remaining weeks this year have been sponsored – thank you! For any information about sponsoring flowers or serving as the flower chairperson for a month, please call Darlene Dietrich at 610-683-7975 or the church office at 610-683-3450.

Assisting Ministers and Lay Readers...

There are a few openings on the calendar in December for assisting ministers and lay readers. You can volunteer for one or both positions for a service. The dates open as of the publishing of the newsletter are listed below. If interested, please call the church office or go to <https://bit.ly/TrinityWorshipLeaderSchedule> to sign up. Thank you!

December 3 (assisting minister only)
December 24 (5 PM & 7:30 PM)

Thank you for Supporting Our Youth ...

Seth,
Enclosed you will find a matching donation of \$200 for Trinity Youth from Rob Halye of Halye's Automotive. He too appreciates your efforts to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for our youth.
Sincerely,
Sue Collier, Kutztown Strong

Youth Group Schedule...

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.

Sunday, November 5th: Trinity
Primary Youth Group (Grades 1st-7th)
Time: 4:30-6:00 PM

Secondary Youth Group (8th-12th)
Time: 6:00-8:00 PM

Thursday, November 9th: Trinity
Dungeons and Dragons Night
Time: 6:00-8:30 PM
Who: All Ages

Sunday, November 19th: Fall Party at Esser Farm
Time: 4:00-6:00 PM
Who: All Ages
Where: Esser Farm, 18 Turkey Road, Kempton

What to Bring: Warm clothing! Layer clothes and wear boots or shoes and clothes you don't mind getting dirty. We will be on a farm, so it might be muddy!

Other Info: There is no indoor plumbing and only an outhouse at this event, so please plan accordingly.

Tuesday, November 21st: Trinity
Dungeons and Dragons Night
Time: 6:00-8:30 PM
Who: All Ages

Also, if you ordered sandwiches from the youth, remember to pick them up at the church Saturday, November 11th, between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

How You Can Help...

Poinsettias for Christmas Eve

Orders are being taken for Christmas poinsettias until Sunday, November 19th. An order form can be found in this newsletter as well as in the rear of the church. There is a choice of red or white in a 6-1/2-inch pot for \$9 each.

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 12th** and Christmas boxes need to be delivered to Trinity by **December 10th**. 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.

Holiday Gifts for Friend and Concern

Hello Trinity,

Ho! Ho! Ho! Even though it is warm outside for November, your Mission Team is thinking about our gift giving to the children at Friends and Concern. As in other years, we will get a list of 50 children from these programs. They will provide the names and gift ideas for the children which will be on a Christmas Tree outside the office. Please select a name and sign the sheet on the table. The gifts need to be returned to the office by November 26, 2023. DO NOT

WRAP the gift but including wrapping paper would be helpful. Attach the tree tag to the gift. Thanks for continuing to give in the Holiday Spirit.

Rita Robertson
Trinity Mission Committee, 2023

Christmas Shoppe 2023

The Christmas Shoppe will still happen this year! We are looking for donations of items appropriate for Christmas gifts such as children's toys, clothing, household goods, etc. The items must be in good condition, new or almost new. If you are donating items, please mark them as for the Christmas Shoppe. This event will help individuals and families obtain gifts for loved ones at an affordable price. We will be holding a jingle offering on November 12th for the Christmas Shoppe. The Christmas Shoppe will be held on Friday, December 1st, from 6:00-8:00 PM and Saturday, December 2nd, from 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon. We are in need of volunteers to help with the Christmas Shoppe. If you would like to volunteer, please see the sign-up sheet on the office door or contact the social work intern, Julia Morton, at 484-374-0031, jmort196@live.kutztown.edu or call or email the church directly.

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.

Attic Outlet...

Thank you to everyone who helped at the sale. We made \$1,353.95 for the Helping Hand fund. We gave away 115 bags of free clothing to Friend, Inc. clients. We also gave clothing to the Life Skills class at KAHS and also some clothing to another school. Enclosed is a thank-you from the teacher.

Thanks again,
Darlene Dietrich

Thank-you received from teacher:

I just wanted to thank Trinity for offering clothing for my students. Not only were the students happy, but some of their parents contacted me and thanked me for providing them with new clothing that they can't afford. I am truly thankful.

ELCA Event...

We Love

On Saturday, November 4th, join the synod's LGBTQIA+ Ministry for a day of education, information, and fellowship on this year's theme: the Reconciling in Christ process. Registration is by free will donation. This year they will be collecting items for a LGBTQ NEPA youth shelter. They are in dire need of men's knit boxer underwear, all sizes; men's personal products like body wash and 3-in-1 wash products; and women's deodorant. The link to register for "We Love 2023" is:

<https://onrealm.org/NEPSynod/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZjU4NTI3MGItNjY4NC00YzI3LThhZWltYjA4MjAwZDc5NTEz>

Community Events...

Missions Community Dinner

On Wednesday, November 1st, St. Paul's UCC Kutztown is having a dinner from 5:00-6:30 PM. Proceeds will be donated to the Dixon family who lost their home and family pet to a fire. The menu includes open-faced turkey sandwiches, potato filling, lettuce with bacon dressing, cranberry sauce, roll, drink and dessert.

Zion Moselem Lutheran Church Concert

Zion Moselem Lutheran Church celebrates their Tannenberg organ on Sunday, November 5th, at 3:00 PM. The concert will feature Prof. Mark Herr at the organ with the Reading Liederkrantz Singers. There is a freewill offering and refreshments following the concert.

Theology With a Twist

The next Theology With a Twist will be on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7 p.m. at the Kutztown Tavern. The topic is "Can the Church Survive?" It will be facilitated by Dr. Jill Peters, Crossroads, Missional Leadership Developer at Moravian Seminary.

Kutztown Folk Music Society

The next concert in the 2023-2024 Kutztown Folk Music Society series will be on Friday, November 10th, featuring Piper's Request playing traditional roots music on guitar, bouzouki (octave mandolin), and Ullieann pipes (Irish bagpipes). As lively as it gets! Concerts are held at St. Paul's UCC, Kutztown, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. There is a \$9 donation for the concert; \$7 for seniors, military and students; free for children 12 and under. Please see the full schedule posted on the church bulletin board.

Oley Daal Fersammling

An afternoon of Pennsylvania Dutch Entertainment on Saturday, November 11th, at 1:00 PM at the Oley Valley Fair Centre. Tickets are \$25. New this year, buy tickets online at www.OleyDaalFersammling.org or send a check payable to Oley Daal Fersammling to: Oley Daal Fersammling, 503 E. Third Street, Boyertown PA 19512. For more information contact: OleyDaalFersammling@gmail.com, 215-688-6285, or 610-401-3520.

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. The next event will be on November 15th featuring Jeff Krick as Elvis. Please RSVP to 610-683-3393.

St. Luke's Good Grief Workshops

St. Luke's offers 90-minute virtual workshops to provide you with a better understanding of what grief is, how it may affect you emotionally, physically, spiritually and psychologically, coping strategies and ways to reconcile the loss. For more information and to receive an invitation to join the meeting, call 484-526-2499. You will be asked to download the Microsoft Teams app on your smart phone or computer. Offerings in November are:

- Thursday, 11/2/2023, from 1-2:30 PM
- Wednesday, 11/15/2023, from 6-7:30 PM

Free Senior Luncheon

The first Friday of each month, the St. Barnabas Center at 234 E. Main Street, Kutztown, will be hosting a free senior luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Next luncheon: Nov. 3.

Better With Age

The Kutztown Community Library hosts Better With Age the third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at the library, located at 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown.

Grace Notes Concert

Grace Notes Gospel Big Band will give a concert at St. Paul's UCC on Saturday, November 18th, at 7 p.m. There is no cost, but a freewill offering will be taken.

Hyssongs in Concert

The Hyssongs family trio will be at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Fleetwood on Saturday, December 2nd to present a Christmas & Southern Gospel Concert. The doors open at 5 PM and the concert begins at 6 PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door; children 5-12 are \$5. For tickets, please call 610-657-8727 or 610-944-9820.

Christmas Sharing at The Lutheran Home at Topton

The Lutheran Home at Topton invites people to donate items for the "store" in which residents can have a holiday shopping experience to shop for a gift for themselves to open Christmas morning. Only new, unwrapped items can be accepted from November 1st through November 23rd at the Reception Desk, Henry Health Care Center Admission Entrance. Please see the poster on the church bulletin board for gift suggestions and more information.

Friend, Inc. Online Christmas Auction

Friend, Inc. is having an online Christmas auction, running from November 20th to November 30th. It's the perfect opportunity to find unique gifts, festive decorations, and more. Items will be listed on their website by November 1st.

Berks Encore

Berks Encore is in need of Friendly Visitor Volunteers to connect homebound seniors with adult volunteers who agree to call or visit for about one hour per week. They are especially in need of adult males who would be willing to become friendly visitors to local senior men. Contact Michelle Goodhart for more information at 610-374-3195, ext. 225 or mgoodhart@berksencore.org. Berks Encore provides many other services to the community as well, including Information & Referrals, Social Security & Medicare Benefits counseling, Community Wellness Centers, Meals on Wheels, Financial Assistance, Elder Law Legal Assistance, and a Grocery Shopping Program. To find out more about these programs, contact Berks Encore at 610-374-3195 or berksencore.org.

Christmas Bazaar & Cookie Sale

There will be a Christmas Bazaar & Cookie Sale on November 18th from 9 AM to 2 PM at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 1343 Long Lane Road, Krumsville. Basket raffle, Christmas flea market, vendors, food, visit with Santa 10 AM to 1 PM. Please call 610-682-7038 for any questions.



Poinsettias for Christmas Eve

Poinsettias for this year's Christmas Eve services can now be ordered. The flowers will be purchased from Countryside Farm and Greenhouse. The cost is \$9.00 for each 6½-inch pot of flowers. This year, we are ordering red and white poinsettias.

The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, November 19, 2023.**

The plants can be picked up after the Christmas Eve services. *If you would like your plant to go to a shut-in, please do this on your own.* You may give your envelope to Debbie Ziegler, put it in the church office, mail it, or place it in the offering plate.

Name: _____

Number of red poinsettias: _____ @\$9 each

Number of white poinsettias: _____ @\$9 each

Total enclosed: _____

Message to be printed in bulletin:

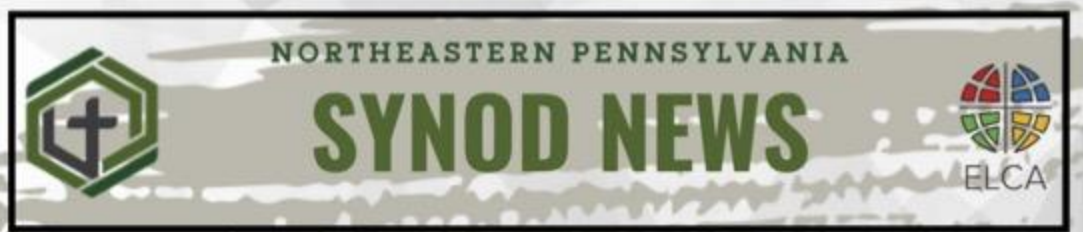


November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 2:00pm Faith, Growth and Support-Rita Lieb 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3 7:00pm AA Meeting	4
5 All Saints Sunday 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Good News Club 3:00pm Rejoicing Spirits Worship Service at St. Paul's UCC 4:30pm Primary Youth Group at Trinity 6:00pm Secondary Youth Group at Trinity 7:00pm SA Meeting	6 Office Closed 7:30pm Kutztown Community Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00pm Worship Life Team Meeting	8 2:00pm Faith, Growth and Support-Rita Lieb 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	9 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm All Ages Youth Group - Dungeons & Dragons at Trinity 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10 7:00pm AA Meeting	11 9:30am Hoagie and Ham Sandwich Pick-Up
12 Baptism Jingle Offering for the Christmas Shoppe 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Sunday Fun Day 7:00pm SA Meeting	13 Office Closed 7:30pm Kutztown Community Choir Rehearsal	14 7:00pm Council Meeting	15 2:00pm Faith, Growth and Support-Rita Lieb 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	16 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	17 7:00pm AA Meeting	18 9:00am Hymn Selection Committee
19 Consecration Sunday 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Good News Club and Journey to Adulthood/Confirmation 2:00pm Eagle Scout Ceremony 4:00pm Youth Group Fall Party - Esser Farm 7:00pm SA Meeting	20 Office Closed 7:30pm Kutztown Community Choir Rehearsal	21 6:00pm All Ages Youth Group - Dungeons & Dragons at Trinity	22 2:00pm Faith, Growth and Support-Rita Lieb 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	23 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	24 7:00pm AA Meeting	25
26 Christ the King 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Decorate sanctuary for Advent and Christmas 4:30pm Kutztown Kitchen Community Meal 7:00pm SA Meeting	27 Office Closed 7:30pm Kutztown Community Choir Rehearsal	28	29 2:00pm Faith, Growth and Support-Rita Lieb 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	30 10:00am Bible Study 5:45pm Easter Seals Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Hope Cemetery Board Meeting	1 7:00pm AA Meeting	2



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Andrew Ziegler Antoinette Matz	2 Debra Kohler Benjamin Storch	3	4 Lily Wolff Allison deForest Isaac Jedwab
5	6	7 Doug Sanders Spencer Kunkle	8	9 Charlotte Storch	10 Steve Fritz Seth Keeney Nicole Yuengel	11 Ryan Fick Tammy Collier
12	13 Patrick Ryan	14 Sarah Fick	15	16 Jansen Kelchner	17	18 Liam Ziegler
19 Abigail Ryan	20	21 Stephanie Billig Amanda Garcia	22 Sam Owen Keefe DePue	23 Joshua Bogert Amelia Kohler Annie Ziegler	24	25 Rita Lieb
26 Madison Sanders Alexa D'Andrea Shirley Wisser	27	28 Margaret Schearer Emily Horvath Bishop Chris deForest	29	30 Carolyn Miller Amy Pfeiler-Wunder		



Interconnected, Diverse, and Wild Creation

Have you ever worked on a crochet or knit project, and got to a point where your yarn ends up tied in a bird nest-looking mess? Or maybe you're one that works with a fishing line, and while re-spooling a reel you end up with a knot with loops and swoops that make you scratch your head and wonder, "Now what?"

I've noticed that when I experience the dilemma of a knotted skein, I feel frustration and anger. If I'm not in my clearest headspace, I will reactively pull one loop at a time, looking for one with any ability to move. "This one moves? Great!" I'll pull it in either direction until it stops. Still knotted? Find another! And again, and again. If I'm not careful I can end up tightening the knot even further, never to be unwound and destined for the scrap pile.

On my clearer days, I can take a jumbled mess of a knot and get it unwound and collected into a smaller ball of yarn without even needing to cut it from the rest! In Times like this, I have found, that the frustration and the anger are still present, yet in letting them pass while I pause, I create the opportunity to take care and intention in my untangling.

I wonder if God feels like that sometimes when, as the interconnected, diverse, and wild Creation that God so deeply loves, we get ourselves all knotted up through broken relationships, judgments, and ignorant acts. I wonder, does God reactively start pulling at us to take action? Does God accept our jumbled mess, allowing us to make different choices and seek right relationships that honor our connectedness? Does God enjoy the feeling of seeing us come together to co-create something new and beautiful?

May you know and trust that the One who has knit you together in the womb is the One who is eager and ready to create goodness and mercy in and through you this day and always. Blessings on your detangling.

Reverend Lauren Applegate
On Leave From Call





We Love 2023:
The Reconciling
in Christ Process

Saturday, November 4, 2023
8:30AM-3PM
at The Lutheran Center
2354 Grove Rd., Allentown

Join the synod's LGBTQIA+ Ministry Team as we host a special day of education, information, and fellowship on this year's theme: The Reconciling In Christ process. We are thrilled to welcome Carla Christopher, Assistant to the Bishop for Justice Ministries in the Lower Susquehanna and Delaware-Maryland synods, to work with us on integrating our commitment to racial justice into our RIC efforts.



SAVE ^{THE} DATE
synod
assembly
JUNE 8TH 2024

NATIONAL
YOUTH
GATHERING
Registration - now open!
 www.elca.church/gathering



*This Thanksgiving, we acknowledge
this land is Indigenous*