



Christ's Corner on the News

Christ's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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JUNE
2021

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER is gearing up for the summer camping season for 2021 and are accepting registrations for all programs. Late fees will begin to be accessed on June 2, so register soon to avoid the late fees! The summer camping session will be in full swing in June! On Sunday, June 20, 2021 the first campers for this year will arrive for the season. For more information, visit the camp website at www.campmountluther.org or call 570-922-1587.

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES begin on June 13. We will gather for worship every Sunday through Labor Day weekend at 8:00 am and 9:30 am. No Sunday School classes meet during the summer months.

KUNKEL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS for 2021-2022 are available on the Welcome Desk in the Atrium, on the church website or in the Church Office. Applications should be submitted to the Church Office by the deadline of **Thursday, June 10, 2021**. Please remind any college students in your household.

AS IN YEARS PAST, we will combine the July and August church newsletters into one summer newsletter. The deadline for getting articles to be included is Friday, June 11. The July/August newsletter will be assembled and mailed out on Tuesday, June 22. The next newsletter will be the September newsletter, to be assembled and mailed on Tuesday, August 24. Deadline for the September newsletter articles will be Friday, August 13.

THE 2021 UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD ASSEMBLY will take place online digitally on June 19, 2021. This year's CELC representatives are Bill Borys, Chad Hershberger, Ron Laniewski and Pastor Henderson.

THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE: is resuming collection of items for Health Kit items to be shipped to Lutheran World Relief to places suffering from natural or political disasters. The item for June is nail clippers. They may be dropped in the barrel in the Atrium at any time.

With a matching Kunkel grant, we sent a check for \$1136 to purchase meat to be processed & distributed to those in need locally as well as in faraway places. Thanks to all who made this possible!

Dear Disciples of Christ's Church,

The month of June has all but arrived, and we are now approaching a year and a half of the Covid-19 pandemic. I am encouraged by the progress which has been made as vaccines have become more and more available. We move closer as a world toward a moment when this virus will no longer dominate our lives, but there is still a distance to travel.



As a congregation, we have tried to travel the “middle road” during this pandemic. Our Council has been open to in person worship when it made sense to us while keeping in mind the best counsel we could follow. We were also closed to in person worship when that seemed to make the most sense to us. The middle road has not always been popular – some wanted us to be more open sooner, and some have wanted us to be even more cautious than we were.

With a broad reopening beginning within our society, our Council at its May meeting had a spirited discussion about the masking and distancing protocols we've operated under since returning to worship in person. At the conclusion of the discussion, the decision was made to continue our current precautions for now and review them at our June 17 meeting.

I thank you for your continued patience and resolve during this time of restricted worship. We do pray for continued progress which will move us toward the time when we can return to normal, but we are not there yet. Hopefully, we will get there this summer!

Speaking of summer, our summer schedule for worship will begin on June 13, with 8 and 9:30 worship services once again this year. Please make your plans accordingly.

On Saturday, June 19, our Upper Susquehanna Synod will hold its Synod Assembly through a giant Zoom meeting. Ron Laniewski, Bill Borys and Chad Hershberger will represent CELC as the Voting Members this year. Pastors always represent ourselves as the clergy of the Synod. If this Zoom concept is successful, I would not be surprised to see it used even in a non-pandemic year, as gathering a whole Synod of delegates together is an expensive proposition.

Other additional news items will no doubt be coming our way this summer from the assembly and other sources; look for more information in our next newsletter!

Yours in Christ's Service,

PASTOR HENDERSON

Congratulations, Graduates!

HIGH SCHOOL GRADS:

Eli Adams is graduating from Lewisburg Area High School. He will be attending the University of Vermont in the fall, majoring in neuroscience.

Bailee Lauver is graduating from Mifflinburg Area High School. She will be going to Clarion University in the fall to study Biology.

Tyler Nevil is graduating from Lewisburg Area High School. He is currently attending Sun Area Technical Institute in New Berlin, where he is studying Electrical Systems Technology. He has been accepted at Pennsylvania College of Technology, and plans to pursue Electrical Construction and Business Management.

COLLEGE GRADS:

Kyle Ehmman is graduating from Millersville University, Lancaster Pa with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Marine Sciences and Coastal Studies ~ Concentration in Physical Oceanography & Minors in Meteorology and Art History. He plans to attend Law School starting in Fall of 2021 ~ wanting to focus in Environmental Policy and Resource Management.

Joseph Martin is graduating from Susquehanna University with a bachelor's degree in Music, specializing in music performance. He plans on assisting with Lutheran Volunteer Corps after graduation.

Emily Stauffer is graduating from Shippensburg College with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education – Pre-K through Grade 4. She has been hired for the Head Field Hockey Coaching job at Mifflinburg and is awaiting an interview for Mifflinburg Elementary school.

Todd Stefan graduated on May 13, Magna Cum Laude from Virginia Tech with a degree in Aero Space Engineering.

Always remember...you are

BRAVER than you **BELIEVE**,
STRONGER than you seem,
SMARTER than you think &
LOVED more than you know.



LET'S CELEBRATE!

JUNE 80+ BIRTHDAYS:

Virginia Mutschler	June 01
Sandy Wunder	June 02
Leola Dornsife	June 05
Marian Thomas	June 06
Bob Harrison	June 10
Theron ("Tex") Winter, Jr.	June 12
Patricia Pritchett	June 24
Carol Keefer	June 26
Marion Stephens	June 26
Judy Bechtel	June 30

NEW ADDRESSES:

Ron Laniewski
3924 Penns Drive
Winfield, PA 17889



Maynard Roush
450 4th St.
Northumberland, PA 17857-1108

JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

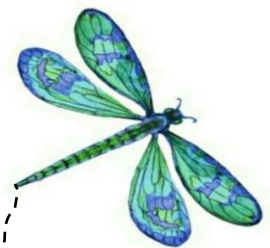
Leroy & Maxine Gilbert	June 01, 1963
John & Margaret Irwin	June 02, 1951
David & Sally Holmes	June 05, 1954
Gerald & Julie Albright	June 06, 1992
Paul & Bonnie Smith	June 06, 1991
Adam & Amanda Geer	June 08, 2013
Dale & Peggy Biesecker, Jr.	June 10, 1972
Gary & Barbara Baylor	June 14, 1969
Tim & Jackie Goff	June 14, 1986
Jeff & Julie Rowe	June 14, 2003
Mark & Adelyn Elliott	June 18, 1978
Tim & Carol Apple	June 19, 1993
Dave & Vicki Heberlig	June 21, 1969
Gregg & Debra Wetzel	June 21, 1980
Brian & Diane Miller	June 22, 1996
Bill & DeeDee Wagner	June 24, 2005
Dan & Kailyn White	June 25, 2011
Bruce & Ruth Ann Wallis	June 26, 1965
Michael & Jan Brown	June 28, 1980
Dr. Todd & Julia Stefan	June 30, 1990

MEMORIALS:

Memorial gifts were given in loving memory of Audrey Baylor, Matt Borys, Jean Derr, Ed Fisher, Roger Hepner, and Dick Skelton from Joyce Stogner of Lewisburg, PA.

A memorial gift was received in loving memory of Matt Borys from Linda Fisher, of Lewisburg, PA.

A memorial gift was received in loving memory of Ed Fisher from Janet Troutman, of Shamokin Dam, PA



June Newsletter Information for Faith Formation



THANK YOU! A huge thank you to all the helpers, donators and participants of the Youth's on-line silent auction and take out ziti dinner. We raised \$872.00 with this event. The youth and leaders appreciate your support for their trip.

Thanks also to all those who have returned the M&M mission money containers. So far we have received \$180.62. We are still collecting containers if you have them.



CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS! On Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd we held the rite of confirmation. Congratulations to Orissa Reed and Quentin Michaels who took this step in their faith life. May they continue to grow in their faith in the years ahead.

MINIATURE GOLF OUTING: On Saturday, June 12 at 3:00 pm all families with children and youth are invited to come to Hoopla's in Shamokin Dam to play a round of miniature golf. Cost per person will be \$5.00. If you are planning to participate, please sign up on the sheet on the Faith Formation bulletin board.



COMING in July

MINI MISSION WEEK - *From Generation to Generation* - July 5 - 8 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm:



*Helping kids
live out their*
FAITH

For 1st through 8th graders. We will have help from some CML staff and high school youth. That week you will get a review of the camp's curriculum and do service projects to help others as you also craft, sing, eat, and play games. We will have necessary COVID pre-cautions in place that are called for at that time. Registration forms are available at the church. As in years past you do not have to attend the whole time, but we would like to know when you will be here. Every day the children and youth will need to bring a lunch, shoes for running games, and a water bottle.

From the Music Team - Brandy, Joanne & Amy

WORSHIP SCHEDULE – JUNE 2021:

- Sunday, May 30:** The Holy Trinity - WOV Setting # 5 - Color White
8:00 & 10:30 am worship
- Sunday, June 6:** Time after Pentecost - WOV Setting # 5 – Color Green
8:00 & 10:30 am worship
- Sunday, June 13:** Time after Pentecost - WOV Setting 5 – Color Green
Begin Summer Worship Schedule
8:00 & 9:30 am worship
Judy Blee, substitute organist
- Sunday, June 20:** Time after Pentecost - WOV Setting 5 – Color Green
8:00 & 9:30 am worship
Judy Blee, substitute organist
- Sunday, June 27:** Time after Pentecost - WOV Setting 5 – Color Green
8:00 & 9:30 am worship
Judy Blee, substitute organist



CANTORS NEEDED FOR SERVICES ON JUNE 13, JUNE 20 AND JUNE 27:

Any singers who would like to serve as a cantor for services on June 13 or June 20 or June 27 should contact Joanne Vasey as soon as possible. Services times will be 8:00 am & 9:30 am. At the time of this publication, masking is still in effect for worship so cantors will need to wear masks. Liturgical setting will be With One Voice Setting # 5. Hymns TBA. Cantors may or may not choose to provide anthems. Please contact Joanne for more information. Judy Blee will be the substitute organist for these three Sundays.

MUSICIANS INVITED TO SHARE ANTHEMS FOR SUMMER WORSHIP:

Musicians are invited to share anthems for worship this summer. All ages and experience levels welcome. Please see the worship schedule for service times and dates. Masking for all musicians will most likely still be in effect. At the time of publication, wind instruments are still not permitted. If not considered public domain, anthems must be covered by one of CELC's copyright licenses. Please contact Joanne Vasey as soon as possible to allow time for copyright checks and pre-planning. Additional information and details will be provided.

USS ARK

News of God's People in Action from the Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA

May 2021

Rogation Service Held

Lutherans celebrated the land at a special worship service at Camp Mount Luther on Saturday, May 1. The Upper Susquehanna Synod, in partnership with six other Lutheran synods in Pennsylvania, as well as United Lutheran Seminary and Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of PA, held a rogation service. Rogation is an ancient practice of prayer of fasting, usually observed in the spring and often tied to asking God for blessings of the land, water, and creation. This year, soil samples were gathered from across the state, mixed, and distributed back to the seven Lutheran synods to include in a rogation service.

The service took place outside, beginning at the amphitheater and concluding at the prayer labyrinth with the distribution of the collected soil back to the earth. About a dozen people attended the rogation service. You can view the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQBG1lb3GYY&t=861s>

University Flood Bucket Update

The Susquehanna Interfaith Network for Disaster Response (Upper Susquehanna Synod and Presbytery of Northumberland) collected 85 flood cleanup buckets from 12 congregations. The buckets, filled with cleaning supplies, will go to Church World Service for distribution to areas impacted by floods. USS congregations participating include Liberty Parish, Himmels, St. Stephen, Trinity (McAlisterville).

Update from Germany

From Missionary Viking Dietrich: Here is my latest newsletter: <https://tinyurl.com/32m6tbck>.

It is an Easter letter at heart. In it I speak about the changes taking place at the Churchwide level of the ELCA. I highlight the change from "Global Mission" to "Service and Justice" and what that means for our work in Europe.

I also share that my role has changed. I will no longer be working in the Middle East, only in Europe. My title is now a lot shorter. With this change comes a stronger focus on our work at the ELCA Wittenberg Center which is featured in one of the articles of the newsletter.

It is a pleasure and a duty for me to visit with sponsoring congregations. The pandemic has caused home assignments in the summer of 2021 to be delayed until the summer of 2022. So please begin to consider inviting me to your congregation, in person, in the summer of 2022.

But I can visit you now and any time virtually via Zoom or some other online technology. In January, the Middle Creek Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod took advantage of this and brought me via Zoom to speak with the youth of their conference. This month, Zion in Herndon invited me to speak to their youth. Please consider inviting me to greet your council, meet with a group such as a Bible Study group or participate in worship. The only limitation is that I am six hours ahead of you, so evening activities Eastern time are not easy for me to attend. Being restricted from travel, my work has been entirely virtual for more than a year now, and this has allowed more regular face to face meetings with companions throughout Europe. I am sure your congregations have adjusted in similar ways and are ready to use online conferencing in new ways. "Zoom me in!"

Up and Down the Valleys

Confirmation students in the **Middle Creek Conference** gathered on May 1st to decorate boxes that will be sent to Synod Assembly voting members. The "Synod Assembly in a Box" will provide goodies for those who will be attending the virtual assembly in June.

Synod Council approved a Small Church Grant in the amount of \$2,000 to **Trinity Lutheran Church, McAlisterville** (Interim Pastor Graham Fowler), for their Faith Connection Coordinator. This is the third and final year they've received a Small Church Grant.

This month's Bishop's Blog is posted. What is the church going to look like post-COVID. We've seen some creativity in the last year- will it continue? Read the post and see what Bishop Collins' thinks. <https://www.uss-elca.org/bishops-may-blog-may-1-2021/>.

It's time once again time for distribution of the produce vouchers for lower income seniors 60 or older. All vouchers will be distributed using an application again this year. Here is the application: <https://www.uss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-SFMNP-application.doc>

Upper Susquehanna Synod Events

May 22, 2021: CML Spring Work Day - Practice stewardship through service at Camp Mount Luther at the Annual Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 22, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We need your help getting the camp grounds and facilities ready for summer. Please bring supplies to do cleaning, mulching, raking, and light construction projects such as step ladders, buckets, rakes, etc. A light lunch will be served. RSVP if staying for lunch to cml@campmountluther.org or 570-922-1587. Promote it:

<https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wpcontent/uploads/2021/01/2021-Work-Day-Flyer.pdf>

June 19, 2021: Synod Assembly - The 2021 Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly will take place online digitally on June 19, 2021. The theme is "Liberated to Love" and is based on Galatians 5: 13-14.

The planning team is working hard to make this digital assembly as accessible and inclusive as possible – hoping that voting members will be open and willing to serve as voting members. They are also working to make this an enjoyable experience and are planning to have frequent breaks in the agenda, so you won't be sitting in front of a computer the whole time. They expect it to last 4-6 hours that day and it will include business, videos from ministries and partners, and keynote speakers.

Registration is still open. Please know that you will need to be able to use technology and a voting app. All assembly reports will again be available online. More detailed information will be provided as it becomes available and will be posted at <http://uss-elca.org/assembly>. All rostered leaders and voting members from every congregation are expected to attend. Clergy need to write an excuse to the bishop if you cannot attend.

Summer at Camp Mount Luther - Camp Mount Luther is gearing up for the summer camping season for 2021 and are accepting registrations for all programs. Late fees will begin to be assessed on June 2, so register soon to avoid the late fees! The summer camping session will be in full swing in June! This summer's staff will arrive on June 6th for their two weeks of training. June 20, the first campers for this year will arrive for the season, for Retro Day Camp, Junior CLAWS (Crafts, Legos, and Wild Sports) and Intermediate Night Owls. From June 27-June 2, programs offered include Water Adventure (with fishing); Music and Drama; Pedal, Pack, and Paddle; and Outdoor Quest. From July 4-7, Family Camp will be held, followed by Mini Pioneer, Mini Junior, Nomads, and SALT from July 7-9. Some highlights of programs in July and August:

- Pick-A- Day Day Camp when you pick how many days you want to come from 9:00 to 3:00.
- Intermediate Night Owls, where you stay up later each night and do activities.
- Craft, Lego, and Wild Sports (CLAWS) for Intermediates, doing more of those three activities.
- Senior High X-Teen for our oldest school-aged campers.
- Paws for our youngest campers.

- TNT: Traditional and New Things, a mix of classics and new traditions.
- SALT 2 (Service And Leadership Training) for our senior high campers.
- Pick An Adventure- for any age to come for a day at camp to do what you want to do.

For more information, visit the camp website at www.campmountluther.org or call 570-922-1587. Stay connected to camp this summer and find out what is happening during our various programs, visit Facebook (www.facebook.com/mountluther), and our blog (www.campmountluther.wordpress.com). We try to update these daily but please realize that our staff is quite busy and if updates are not posted, it's because the campers and staff are so busy that they can't get an update posted. And don't forget, our daily First Light devotions will continue to be posted each weekday. Check them at www.cmlfaithformation.weebly.com.

October 28, 2021: Lutheran Day at the Capital ~ As we continue to move through the pandemic, we look forward and invite you to mark your calendar for this year's Lutheran Day. We will gather in Harrisburg on Thursday, October 28, 2021. We have moved this annual event from the spring into the fall in prayerful anticipation that we may safely gather by then. Learn more here: <https://www.lutheranadvocacy.org/save-the-date-for-lutheran-day-2021-october-28/>

July 24-28, 2022: ELCA Youth Gathering “BOUNDLESS – God beyond Measure” ~

In July of 2022 in Minneapolis, Minnesota the ELCA Youth Gathering will be taking place. The theme is Boundless. We are bound. Bound by our sin, by the expectations of others, by poverty, by -isms that try to divide us, and by so much more. In a life that often feels as if it has young people in a suffocating grip, we want them to imagine the boundlessness of God: boundless love, boundless mercy, boundless freedom, boundless creation, boundless strength. All offered from a gracious and loving God who knows and adores them. All so abundant and endless it cannot be measured. What are the stories of God's people, both in Scripture and modern-day, that share the awe and wonder of just how vast our God is? What does it mean, what does it look and feel like to live a life “filled with all that God is”? How can young people find themselves within the boundlessness of Christ's love? The Gathering offers unique opportunities that invite young people into a deeper relationship with a God whose possibilities are boundless. Through one-of-a-kind experiences, this ministry stretches and affirms young people's gifts and calls. They experience the power of the Spirit within them, that frees them to live in the grace of God's boundless love in Jesus Christ.

Gathering Volunteer Corps and Local Volunteer Applications Open on May 22, 2021. Getting Ready Materials Launch on June 22, 2021

For more information you can go to the website www.elca.org/youthgathering. Make sure you are signed up for Gnews. If you have any questions, you may contact our Gathering Synod Coordinator, Charlene Rineer at 570-524-0745.

USS ARK is a publication of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA. Permission is granted to reproduce USS Ark for congregational communications. Send your mission stories and ministry ideas to Editor Chad Hershberger at news@uss-elca.org.