



trinity tidings

Volume 55 – No. 7

July 2026

Church Office Hours:
Mondays thru Thursdays 9:00 - 12:00 PM
Closed on Fridays

The Rev. Althea Seidel, Pastor (pastoralthea3@gmail.com)
Stephanie Kaylor, Newsletter Editor (stephanie@trinityleb.org)
Visit us on the web at www.trinityleb.org

trinity tidings is the newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 723 Lehman Street, Lebanon, PA 17046

Because Pastor Althea is not yet able to write her usual *Trinity Tidings*'s article, the pastor's column will feature the congregation's seminarian interns in the 1970's. We hope you will find this look-back at who these interns were interesting and, perhaps, recall memories by those of us who were members 50 years ago. (By the way, if you are someone whose memory adds stories or information about any of our interns, please share them with the Archives and Artifacts Committee to add to their file.)

In 1974, at a time young adults were gaining a foothold in a dramatically changed world as a consequence of the Vietnam War and minority rights movements, Holy Trinity began participating in a LCA program that would permit seven individuals to test the waters of their vocation as pastors while still seminarian students, under the supervision of our Pastor Wilson Hoyer.

Bruce E. Yelovich, of Yugoslavian heritage, was born in 1950 in Bethlehem, PA and raised in the Lutheran Church. After receiving a B.A. in German from Moravian College, he entered Gettysburg Seminary. He met his wife Bonnie at Moravian, also a Lutheran, who



became an elementary school teacher. As an intern (1974-75), he pursued a deeper understanding of the liturgy, then in transition. After ordination he served Zion Lutheran Church, Garfield, NJ. We have no further information on Pastor Bruce.

Richard A. Sheu was born in 1949 and raised on Long Island, NY. He met and married his wife, Carol, at Calvary Lutheran Church, Hauppauge, NY and married her in 1972. He received a B.A.

in Religious Studies with a minor in history at Wagner College, Staten Island, New York City in 1973, then transferred to Gettysburg Seminary. As an intern, (1975-76) he was outgoing, active and was particularly supportive in settling the refugee Cambodian Prum

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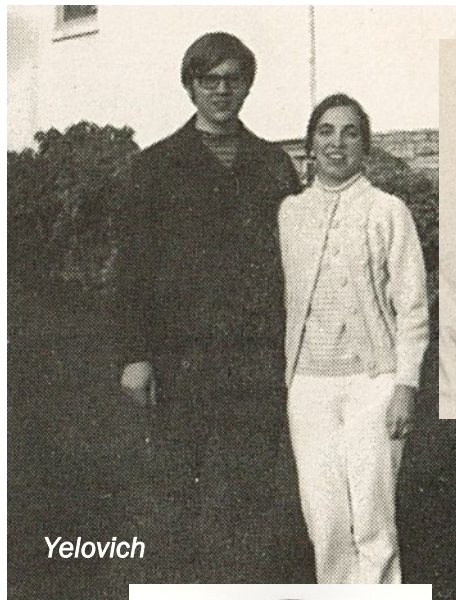
**Continued from page 1,
Our Church's Heritage**

Horn family Holy Trinity was then sponsoring. After ordination he was the pastor, for 34 years, of Price of Peace Lutheran Church, Troy, NY from where he retired in February 2012. Pastor Richard passed away in March 2012. He and Carol were parents of a daughter, Kristen.

Bruce B. Wertz was born in 1952 and raised in Jannette, PA. He majored in Biblica Studies at Wittenberg University, OH and graduated cum laude in 1974. He had spent a year of that time in Israel studying Hebrew. He entered Yale Divinity School focusing on parish ministries in anticipation of being a Lutheran pastor. He used his year as an intern (1976-77) to further that concentration.

Following ordination, he served Redemer Lutheran Church, Erie, PA as her pastor. We have no further information on Pastor Bruce.

Yutaka Kishino was a native Japanese born in 1952 into a Lutheran family who attended Koishikawa Church in Tokyo. He was unsure of his life's work until for his second year of college he was an exchange student, and worked that summer at the Lutheran Youth Ministry Camp for the Emotionally Disturbed in Massachusetts. Returning home, he became a pre-ministerial student, graduating from St. Paul's Episcopal University in Tokyo, then transferred to Gettysburg Seminary. As an intern (1977-78), he retained the calm gentility he inherited from his father while radiating warm kindness acquired from his mother, which won over our congregation and, in particular, Nancy Daubert, a member of Lebanon's Zion Lutheran Church, whom he married after his graduation from Gettysburg in 1979. He first served Zion Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA, while Nancy finished her degree in Occupational Therapy at Temple University. He served as an ELCA mission developer from 1988 to 2012 in TX and CA; he retired in 2015 Yutaka kept in touch with Holy Trinity over the years, writing, "We think of you often."



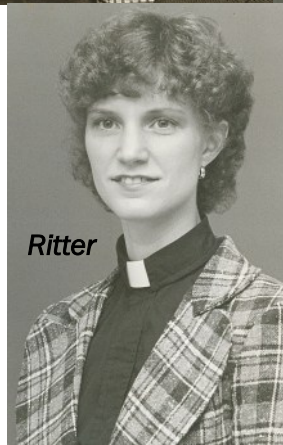
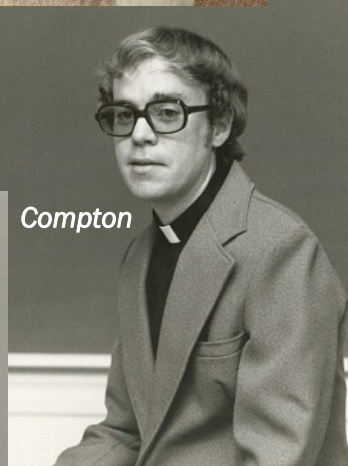
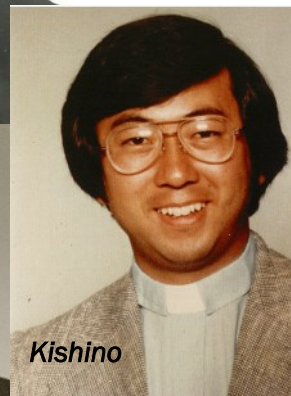
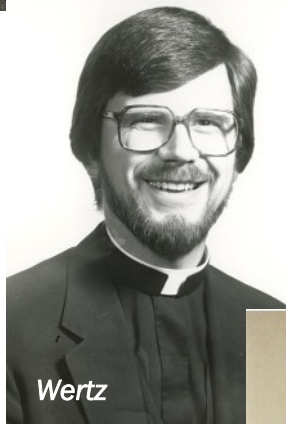
He and Nancy had two children, Katie and Andrew. Yutaka died in 2022.

Donald E. Motaka was an intelligent young man with an unstable home life. Graduating from Gettysburg Area High School in 1970, he received sufficient scholarships and financial aid to attend, full-time, the University of Pennsylvania. Initially, he majored in Chemistry, but switched to Religious Studies. His mother had been diligent in his attending Church and Sunday School and his Lutheran

pastors and his church's Youth Group had been supportive during a difficult period of his life. But his experience working for the LCA's Youth Ministry Team in Ohio in the summer of 1970 convinced him to seriously consider parish ministry. Having graduated from Penn and

consulting with the LCA's Central Penn Synod, he decided it would be better for him to attend Yale Divinity School rather than Gettysburg Seminary. He continued struggling with his vocation during his intern year (1978-79). And, it

wasn't until 1982 when he was ordained at St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg. His



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spiritual journey led him to enter St. Augustine House, a Lutheran monastery in Oxford MI, where he died in 2020.

Jeffery C. Compton's hometown is Harrisburg. He graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1975 and then attended Dickenson School of Law in Carlisle. Discovering he was not suited for the law, he took two years off, working for a landscaping firm in Harrisburg. Deciding to enter Gettysburg Seminary, he worked during his first summer as a chaplain in Biglerville and found counseling rewarding. Counseling became his major focus with the possibility of engaging in campus ministry. During his intern year (1979-80) he concentrated on developing his counseling skills. As of 2021, Pastor Jeffery is a Spiritual Director serving Lutheran Social Services, living in Harrisburg, PA.

Anna M. Ritter was born in 1947 and raised in Wheeling, WV. Although she was not fond of public school, she loved to read and for two years was second soprano in a girl's singing group who performed at clubs and churches. She was active in Luther League in her local church and at the synodical level. She attended West Virginia University and during her final semester she applied for and was accepted as a Pan American stewardess. Stationed variously in New York, Chicago, and Seattle, she traveled the world. Having met people of many religious backgrounds created her desire to acquire a deeper understanding of Christianity. She entered Gettysburg Seminary with the intent of being a seminary professor. There she met Bill Esborn from Branford CT, a second year student, whom she married. During her husband's intern year, they lived in Millville, PA while she completed her second year studies via an independent studies program. During her intern year (1980-81) Anna Ritter-Esborn lived in Lebanon with her husband, while he was employed in Lebanon and commuted once a week to Gettysburg for classes. "Anna" introduced Holy Trinity to the gifts women give to a congregation as a pastor. Currently, Pastor Anna is retired and living in Mifflinburg, PA.

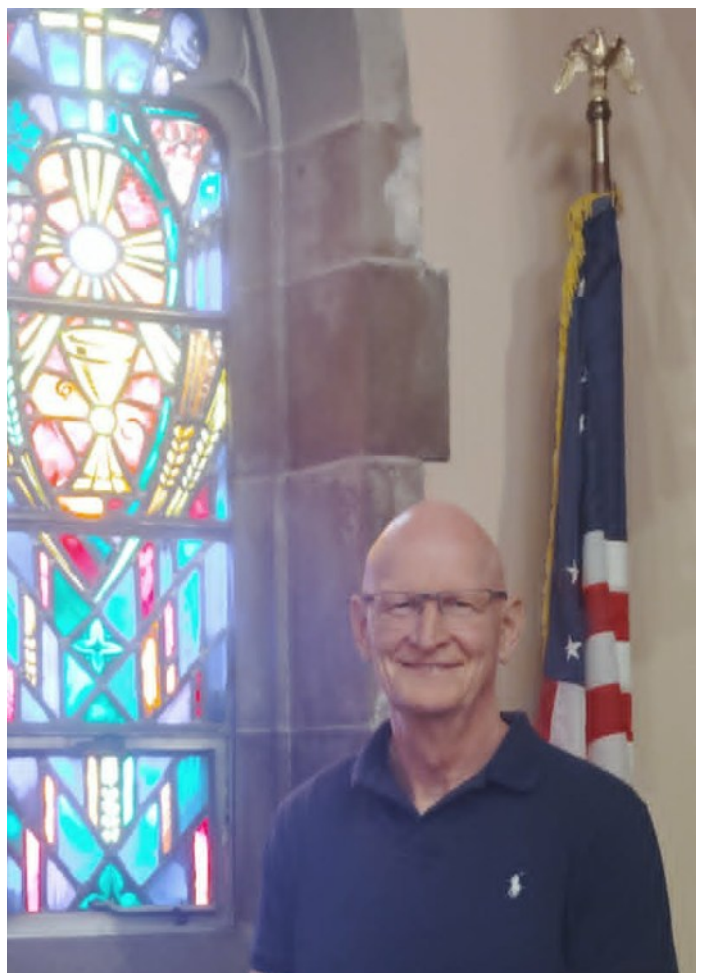
Committee Chair Persons

Worship & Music: Paul Copenhaver
Finance: Horace Ehrgood
Christian Education:
Elizabeth Hershey
Property: Henry Wampler
Archives & Artifacts: Jim Dibert
Social Ministry: Jim Dibert
Social Activities:
Stephanie Kaylor



Church Council Members

Jessie Green (*President*)
Nancy Brightbill (*Vice President*)
Ed Kulakowski (*Secretary*)
Brad Bishop (*Church Treasurer*)
Jay Brown
Carl Deemer
Karen Fitting
Pam Gainer
Neal Galbraith
Heidi Gerver
Renee Hunter
Lynn Kern
Guy Lintner
Henry Wampler



Holy Trinity recently had the pleasure of giving the family of Edgars Linauts (pictured above) a tour of the stained glass windows that his father, Leonids Linauts designed. For more information on the stained glass or artist, please visit www.trinityleb.org/about.

Aluminum Can Collection

The church continues to collect aluminum cans for recycling.

Please bring the aluminum cans

(rinsed & flattened) to the church weekdays during church office hours, or bring them along to church, Sunday School, or any other church function. A container for them is located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).



LCCM Food Bank Item

The items requested in July is juice.

Items can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the red shopping cart labeled "LCCM Food Bank" located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).

Please continue your generosity by continuing to donate to the Food Bank. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

Donation Items

The items requested in July are **soap, toothpaste,**

deodorant, ready to

eat meals, fruit, canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.),

individual packs of crackers, granola bars and water bottles.



Monetary donations are also needed. To give, simply mark your donation with a note "Share & Care."

Items can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the bin labeled "SHARE & CARE" located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).



**The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania**
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Upcoming Events:

July 19-24: Family Camp at Nawakwa

July 26: Summer Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm

For more information, please visit:
www.lutherancamping.org



Lutheran Disaster Response: July's Special Offering

Disasters have many different causes: Hurricanes and Tornadoes, Floods and Droughts, Earthquakes and Volcanic Eruptions, Wildfires, and Mud Slides. Regardless of the cause, human beings are killed, injured, suffer from trauma, and left with little or no resources to rebuild their lives. Often there are immediate "headline responses" but the event is forgotten in the long haul. Lutheran Disaster Response makes a difference in three ways. Its many partners remain for the long task of rebuilding, it responds not only to large scale disasters but to localized ones as well, and it provides for not only physical and emotional needs but also personal spiritual care. Giving to Lutheran Disaster Response at this time is important because recurring trends tends to result in an increased number of disasters during the second half of each year. Thank-you for prayerfully considering a Special Offering gift for July.

Special Offering envelopes can be found at either Welcome Table or in the pews. You can also mark your donation "Disaster." Thank you!



**Lutheran
Disaster Response**

WORSHIP *with us*

July Worship Schedule

July 5, 12, 19, and 26

9:00 AM—Traditional Service

10:15 AM—Adult Christian
Education



Online Worship Service:

Our online worship will continue to be available. You can find the service by going to <https://www.trinityleb.org/links>. Here you will find links to the live-stream, the bulletin, and the replay of the service so that you can watch at any time you wish during the week.

Inclement Weather Policy: If Church is going to be cancelled due to weather, it will be posted on our website page: www.trinityleb.org. Don't forget to refresh your browser when viewing the website. You can also find information on our Facebook page: facebook.com/htlclebanonpa. The decision will be made by 7 p.m. the Saturday prior to service.

Prayer Partners

If you would like your name added to the list for prayer, please call the church office, 717-273-8567 or email at stephanie@trinityleb.org.

If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.

We ask our readers to include the following people in their prayers:

Barb Atwood, Terry Clearwater, Monique Derfler, Deb Dobson, Donna, George & Susie Eckert, Dan, Dan Fox, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, Jennifer, Joe & Fran, Joe Kalbach, Donna Kullman, Jim & Judi Light, Ann Mark, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Robert, Margaret Reese, Pastor Althea, Sam & Marie Smith, Betty Troxell, Nancy & Rick Warner, and Mary Yeagley.



Our Vision...Our mission is to grow in faith and discipleship, share the Good News of Jesus through word and deed, love others as Christ loves us, and celebrate life in Christ through worship, sacraments and service.

Our Mission...We are a community of believers who come together in:

✠ **Worship** to be transformed by the presence of Jesus Christ in and through God's gift of Word and Sacrament.

✠ **Christian Education** to deepen our faith and strengthen us in faithful service, trusting in the creative activity of the Holy Spirit.

✠ **Friendship** to celebrate our unity in Christ and sustain and nurture each other as we journey with Him in our day-to-day lives.

✠ **Stewardship** to gratefully use the time, talents and possessions we have been given in furthering our mission in response to Jesus' call and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

✠ **Evangelism** to share the Jesus story so that others may come to know God's reconciling grace and the peace, joy and hope that his divine grace gives.

✠ **Social Ministry** to respond to the spiritual, mental and physical needs of our neighbors and advocate for the poor, hungry and vulnerable peoples of the world.

Medical Equipment & Supplies

We have a small lending "library" of equipment and new medical supplies that are available for use by members of Holy Trinity. Some of the items include: wheelchairs, shower chairs, medical bed, pads for beds, adult diapers, and more. These items are available at no cost to you. If you have a need or would like to donate an item, please contact the Church Office at 717-273-8567.





Council Notes

Highlights of Church Council Meeting June 16, 2026

- May income was \$18,685.05; Expenses were \$29,082.31.
- May was a 3 payroll month (added to the higher expenses.)
- A large donation was made in the building and maintenance fund.
- Pastor Althea is in good spirits. Physical therapy is progressing well. She appreciates all the cards, prayers, and occasional visits.
- Shank door will be fixing the rear entrance door in the next week or so.
- Precision HVAC is scheduled to repair A/C unit in choir room as soon as needed parts arrive.
- Entrance steps in need of repair/replacement.
- Contractor will repair and patch the main entrance steps.
- Gathering several estimates (at least 3) for major repairs/replacements of two of the stairs on Lehman Street entrances.
- Organist search: Positive formal interview was held on June 16. Candidate demonstrated his organ skills for the interviewers. Next steps reach an agreement. (see Addendum)
- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, July 23 at 7:00 PM

Addendum Church Council Meeting Minutes

- Council President Jessie Green needed to wait for confirmation from PJ Copenhaver before voting on organist. Per Jessie Green vote request via email on 6/17/2026: a job invitation was extended for position of organist to Daniel L. Shuman at the current budgeted salary.
- Council members responses voted YES
- Job offer was accepted. Not sure of start date yet as he must give notice to his current churches.



Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - May 2026



	Month of May	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	\$18,685	\$111,658	\$138,899
Expenses	(\$29,082)	(\$144,556)	(\$150,407)
Net Income	(\$10,397)	(\$32,899)	(\$11,509)

CLASS OF 2026



DANIEL HERSHEY

He will be attending the University of Northwestern Ohio for HVAC.



ALI GATTO

She will be attending Lebanon Valley College as a psychology major.

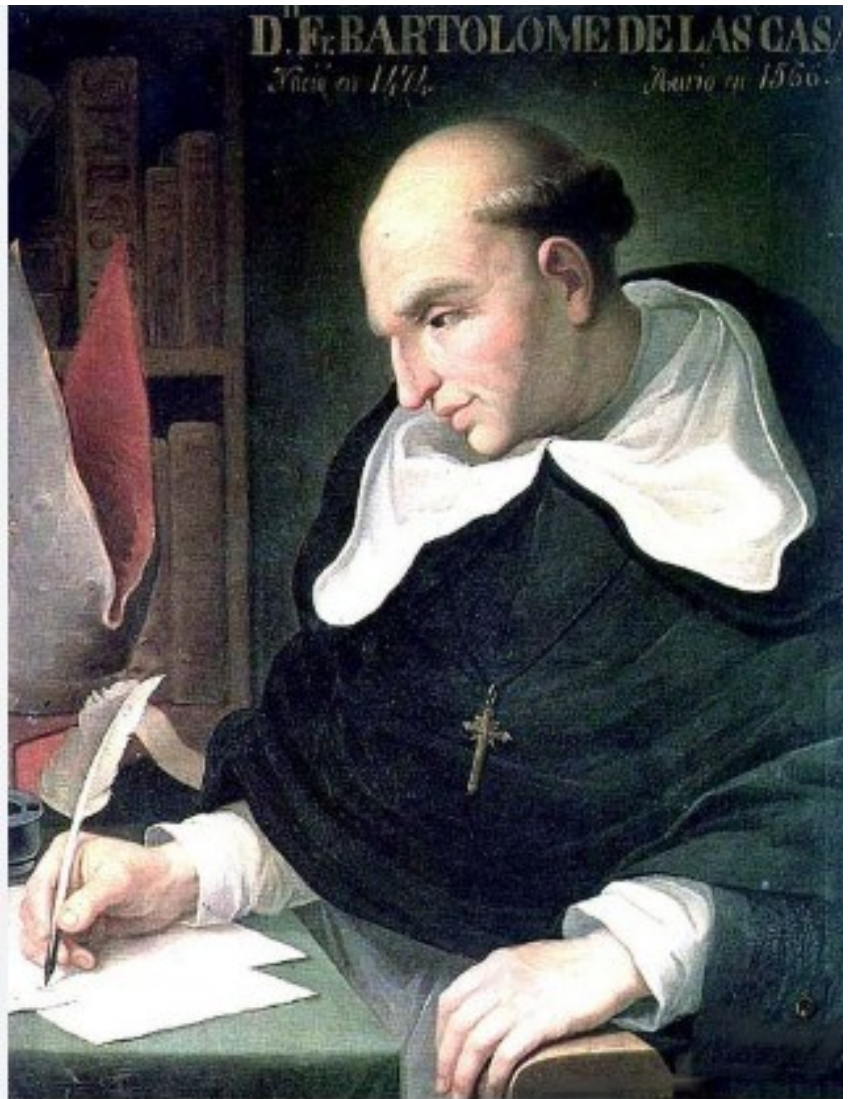
Exemplars of the Faith: *Protector of the Indians* Bartolome de las Casa, Missionary (1484-1566)

Bartolome was among the Spanish “conquistadors” who invaded the Caribbean island of Hispaniola, brutally subduing and enslaving its native population. At the time, Europeans accepted the idea that being able to reason distinguished humans from animals, making them like God, a “Rational Being”. This allowed these conquistadors to justify their treatment of the native people because they were seen as subhuman, lacking the ability to reason. That Europeans developed technologies such as the printing press, gunpowder weapons and ocean sailing vessels seemed to validate their belief.

Yet, Bartolome felt the need to seek forgiveness for his brutality, but a Dominican priest refused him absolution; his actual sin was not accepting the natives as being human. Dominican theologian Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) taught that reason can deduce knowledge from the natural world but very little about God. So having reason does not in itself distinguish what it means to be human. (Las Casas’ contemporary Martin Luther said much the same thing: “Who knows what that is, which is called God? It is beyond body, beyond spirit, beyond everything we can say, hear, and think.”)

This experience led Las Casa to study theology and being ordained a Dominican priest in 1510. He devoted his life to convincing others that American Indians were human beings in God’s sight. He did this primarily through his writings and debates to change the views of Spanish authorities.

His basic argument was that Native Americans have the capacity to grasp God’s revelation of His Love of mankind in Jesus Christ. Moreover, John’s Gospel calls that revelation the *Logos* (i.e., “Word”) made flesh. *Logos* is the Greek word referring to the wisdom the philosophers, using reason, were searching for and debated that gave order and meaning to existence. In effect, John was saying that that wisdom is not found through reasoning but found only through God’s revelation in Jesus Christ. So, Scripture’s declaring that humans are made in God’s image means that humans are human because they were originally created to freely reflect who God was, is, and will ever be, which is His eternal self-giving Love. Even though this human image is corrupted by



mankind’s turning from God, seeking the temptations of this world, the incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ has restored what it means to be human. Indian converts, who were taught the catechism, demonstrate that they have the human intelligence and dignity God has given to all human beings.

In a *Living Lutheran* article, Javier Alanis wrote that Las Casa “helped enact the New Laws for colonial Spain that would protect the native people from mistreatment, defend their property rights and allow them to become subjects of the crown. The court of Spain officially named him the ‘Protector of the Indians.’ He was appointed bishop of Chiapas, Mexico in 1544, a position he held until 1550.”

The Lutheran Church commemorates the life of Bartolome de las Casa on July 17.

WELCA Women's Retreat



Relax, Recharge, & Replenish!

The WELCA members are very pleased to announce that we are hosting our very first Women's Retreat! We are inviting all women of Holy Trinity to relax, recharge, and replenish your soul at Camp Nawakwa from Friday October 16 to Sunday October 18. Feel free to bring a female friend or family member. The cost is \$150 per person which includes lodging, meals and supplies. More details will be coming, but if you need more information, contact Heather Buffington. Please save the dates and consider joining us for a weekend of fun and fellowship October 16 through 18, 2026.

Would you like to give forward to Holy Trinity? We have several volunteer opportunities. Volunteers are needed to help with the Share & Care ministry. Hours and time commitment is up to you! Help is needed putting clothing and food out for our neighbors.



Additionally, help is needed in hanging and sorting clothing and preparing utensils for the food box.

If you would like more information, please contact the Church Office. THANK YOU!



GET YOUR GEAR TODAY!



Large Tote Cooler



Hybrid Backpack



STORES.CRSAPPAREL.COM/HTLC

*Scan the code with
your phone's camera!*



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS AND PERSONAL CARE KITS 2026



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

The Women of the ELCA of Holy Trinity are participating in two projects for Lutheran World Relief again this year – the assembly of 100 school kits and 100 personal care kits. We welcome members of the congregation to join us in this endeavor. The items needed for each type of kit are listed below. All donated items can be placed in the WELCA Collection Barrel in The Giving Place from July 5 to September 6. **September 6 is the deadline for all donations.**

SCHOOL KITS

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School kits contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults—continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Include the following items in each School Kit:

- Four 70-80 sheet **spiral-bound** notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8"x 10 1/2"; **NO LOOSE-LEAF PAPER**
- One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with imbedded steel blades work well)
- One 30 centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other side
- One pencil sharpener
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (**NO GEL INK**); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One eraser approximately 2 1/2 " long
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" x 17" with shoulder straps (**NO**



STANDARD BACKPACKS) Recommended fabrics include sturdy cotton, canvas, denim and twill.

- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove excess packaging, pack all items in the school bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Cleanliness certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable, and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a personal care kit provide much needed self-care, critical germ fighting and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

- One light weight bath-size towel (20" to 27" x 40" to 52"), dark color recommended.
- Two bath-size bars of soap any brand in its original wrapping (4 oz bars only)
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging. Toothbrush multipacks may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.
- One sturdy comb, wide tooth preferred, remove packaging
- One metal nail clipper attached file optional, remove packaging
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap all the items in the towel and tie the towel securely with ribbon or yarn. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags





Alpine Valley (formerly Spang Crest) Needs Your Generosity!

As with most nursing homes, your generosity adds to our residents' lives and activity programming. Listed below are some of the typical prizes that our residents would choose to take off the prize cart. Any of these donations or any other items would be greatly appreciated.



- Kleenex (boxes and tissues packs)
- Candy (individually wrapped): sugar free hard and/or chocolate candy, hard candy
- Snack Foods: pretzel bags, snack packages, cookies, crackers (peanut butter or cheese)
- Jewelry (mainly long necklaces)
- Perfume and/or Cologne
- After Shave, Body Spray, and/or Hand Lotions
- Quarters to spend in the Gift Shop
- Adult Coloring Books & Colored Pencil Packs
- Small Notebooks (to write in)
- Small Stuffed Animals

For more information, please contact Marian Brandt at 717-273-4385. Donations can be placed in The Giving Place in the bin marked "Alpine Valley."



- Reusable Shopping Bags
- Gift Bags: Any Occasion
- Cards: Birthday, Get Well (both are needed — any accepted)

Please bring your donation and place it in the Wish List bin in The Giving Place. THANK YOU!



From the Country Store Booth

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Bonnie, Gina, Kitty, Betty, Karen F., Rita, Dave, Tim, Kirk, Rebecca, Morgan, Kenny, Linda, Darwin, Nancy, and Addie.

Once again, it was time to make strawberry jelly and these men and women rose to the challenge and got the job done. From picking strawberries, washing dishes, cleaning strawberries, stirring kettles, to filling jars, these people were all up for the challenge!

What a great day and a successful day. I couldn't ask for a better group of people to make jelly.

We will be selling the strawberry jam for \$3 (8 oz. jar) and \$5.50 (16 oz. jar). Anyone interested in purchasing, please see Louise Battistelli, Linda Brandt, or the Church Office.

- Louise Battistelli





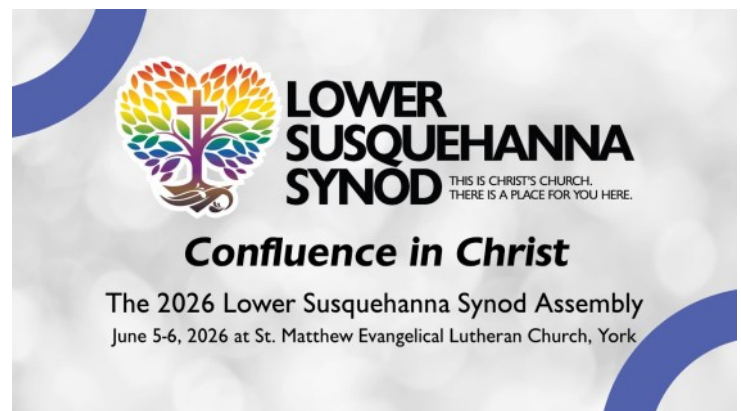
Mt. Gretna Handbell Festival: June 6th

(front to back) Shannon Engle, Linda Brandt, Jeanene Meyer, Pat Walter, Heather Buffington, Karen Fitting, Rita White, Barb Copenhagen, Deb Reiner, PJ Copenhagen, Nate Brossman, Katelyn Tricamo, Justin Breen, and Louise Battistelli



2026 Assembly Highlights

- The 39th Lower Susquehanna Synod gathered under the theme, "Confluence in Christ." Voting members poured water from bodies throughout the synod into a basin reminding us of our connection through the living water of Jesus Christ.
- Enjoyed learning opportunities through a variety of forums and affinity groups.
- Enjoyed mission videos from a variety of agencies and ministries.
- Installed the newly elected members of the Synod Council.
- Received Bishop Herr's report emphasizing the important role of rostered ministers, lay leaders, children and youth in the life of our synod; the value of our ecumenical partnerships; the need for increased



and accelerated collaboration among congregations, and the significance of advocacy and justice ministries across the synod. Assistants to the Bishop Pastor Beth Martini, Deacon Marsha Roscoe, and Charlie Roberts provided important insights and updates regarding the synod's mobility ministry, stewardship, wellness, campus ministry, and ministry with and for children, youth, and young adults.



All Ladies Invited to the

Camp WELCA Picnic!

The Women of the ELCA are having a Camp Themed Picnic on Wednesday August 19 at 6:00pm at Carol Koehler's home:
53 Strathford Drive, Lebanon, PA.

We are inviting all ladies of Holy Trinity to bring a lady friend or family member and dress in camp attire. There will be a covered dish supper, camp activities, fellowship, and games. Please sign yourself and your guests up at one of the Welcome Tables by Sunday, August 9.

For questions or to sign up via phone call
or text contact Heather Buffington
(717) 926-3917 or Carol Koehler
(717) 926-4390





2 - Brady Cassel
PO Box 399
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

Edward Ream
1108 Oak Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

4 - Mason Eisenhower
35 Palmer Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

Karen Lintner
1943 West Cumberland Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

5 - Theresa Gogets
618 Richfield Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042

6 - Melissa Godlevski
13 Southfield Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

Erika Runkel
217 South Christian Street
Cleona, PA 17042

Sam Seiders (*celebrating his 16th birthday*)
102 East High Street
Annville, PA 17003

8 - Karen Mitchell
16 Woodland Estates
Lebanon, PA 17042

11 - Corey Brandt
1103 Elm Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

Robert Snyder
19 Fox Run Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

16 - Terry Weaver
1045 South Lincoln Avenue
Lebanon, PA 17042

20 - Alexis Neitz (*celebrating her 9th birthday*)
30 East Main Street, Apt. 1
Palmyra, PA 17078

John Umberger
120 Ruth Drive
Myerstown, PA 17067

22 - Cody Nelson
1410 Todd Court
Annville, PA 17003

23 - Betty Schriver
208 Adam Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042

24 - James Cassel, III
PO Box 399
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

25 - Darwin Miller
1069 Horseshoe Circle
Lebanon, PA 17042

27 - Mae Maxwell
Kindred Place
One Kindred Place, Apt. 22
Annville, PA 17003

29 - Dawn Kohr
371 North 5th Street
Lebanon, PA 17046

Wilma "Betz" Miller
2618 Long Lane
Lebanon, PA 17046

30 - George Dodson
922 Sycamore Lane
Lebanon, PA 17046

Marie Smith
823 South 12th Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

31 - Mike Hentz
125 John Drive
Myerstown, PA 17067

Lester Sholly, Jr.
27 Sunrise Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042

*Please consider sending a card or giving them a
phone call to celebrate their special day.*

COOKIE SMILE POPS



Transform slice-and-bake cookies into cheerful lollipop treats and share a few edible smiles.

What you need:

- 1 roll refrigerated sugar cookie dough
- Knife
- Baking sheet
- Wooden craft sticks
- Frosting
- Sprinkles
- Clear treat bags
- Ribbon



What you do:

1. Freeze the cookie dough for 15 to 20 minutes to firm it up, then slice into 1/4-inch rounds.
2. Place cookies on a baking sheet about 2 inches apart.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 5 minutes.
4. Remove from the oven and gently press a wooden stick halfway into the bottom of each cookie.
5. Return to the oven and bake 3 to 5 more minutes, until lightly golden.
6. Let cookies cool completely.
7. Decorate with frosting to create smiling faces and add sprinkles.
8. Slip each cookie pop into a treat bag and tie with ribbon.



SANDY SCENES

Make a scene with this fun summer craft you can create outdoors.



What you need:

- Play sand
- Spoons
- Empty jars
- Powdered tempera paint
- Cardstock paper and pencil
- Craft glue
- Paintbrush

What you do:

1. Pour a few tablespoons of sand into empty jars. (You need one jar for every color of paint you make.)
2. Add a small amount of powdered paint to the sand and then mix. Experiment with the amount, using more paint to create deeper colors.
3. Lightly sketch a design on cardstock.
4. Working in one small section at a time, paint an even layer of craft glue on the paper.
5. Use a spoon to sprinkle colored sand atop the glue. Tilt the paper so extra sand falls off. Repeat to complete the entire design.
6. Let dry on a flat surface before displaying upright.



Mt. Gretna Bible Festival

Choir Festival

an annual tradition since 1959

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Concert at 7:00 pm



Pepper Choplin

This Year's Guest Conductor

Pepper Choplin is a widely published composer of music for church and school, a published author, conductor, and performer. During his long career he has been honored to appear in New York at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and has traveled the country working with choirs.

The program will include a variety of sacred music styled composed by Pepper Choplin.

Parking Information

The Tabernacle is located at Third Street & Glossbrenner Avenue adjacent to the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church. In addition to parking along Routh 117, parking for this event is available at Mt. Gretna Fire Co. and Mt. Gretna Roller Rink in defined areas only. Handicapped Parking at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church Parking Lot.

This program is open to all. A free-will offering will be received.

Worship

Lectionary Readings

Sunday, July 5

6th Sunday in Pentecost

Zechariah 9:9 - 12

Psalms 145:8 - 14

Romans 7:15 - 25a

Matthew 11:16 - 19, 25 - 30

Sunday, July 26

9th Sunday in Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5 - 12

Psalms 119: 129 - 136

Romans 8:26 - 39

Matthew 13:31- 33, 44 - 52

Sunday, July 12

7th Sunday in Pentecost

Isaiah 55:10 - 13

Psalms 65:[1 - 8] 9 - 13

Romans 8:1 - 11

Matthew 13:1 - 9, 18 - 23

Sunday, August 2

10th Sunday in Pentecost

Isaiah 55:1 - 5

Psalms 145:8 - 9, 14 - 21

Romans 9:1 - 5

Matthew 14:13 - 21

Sunday, July 19

8th Sunday in Pentecost

Isaiah 44:6 - 8

Psalms 86:11 - 17

Romans 8:12 - 25

Matthew 13:24 - 30, 36 - 43





July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00AM Service of Holy Communion 10:30AM Adult Christian Education	August 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Look Ahead August 2026 7 Purple Heart Day	1  9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING 12P PRIVATE EVENT	2  9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING	3  9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING	4  9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

