



VICAR'S PONDERABLES – APRIL, 2025

A Note from the Vicar... Seek the Voice of Love.

I hope each of you are finding time to turn inward, to reflect, fast, pray, and listen with your whole heart, for the voice of God in your life during this Lenten season. If you have been reading along in our shared devotions, you should be picking up some helpful insight on how we can experience Life Renewed as individuals, as a congregation, and as members of God's church. If you have not been following along, or you have not yet heard God's voice, it is okay. As Zach Fetter says, "Look for the hope!" Start there. It is never too late to experience the hope found in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

I share the words from March 21, 2025, as written by David L. Miller in Life Renewed. Devotions for Lent 2025. 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Isaiah 55:1 NRSVUE

How shall we hear the voice in this scripture passage? As a command? A gentle invitation? Or something much more, like a heartfelt cry. Please come! the Holy One cries; Come home. I am the food for which you long, the wine that gladdens your heart. Bring your hunger and your despair, I will fill your barren hearts, dissolve your despair, and awaken tears of joy.

The heart of God cries out for you, for every last one of us, even as God cried out through the prophet Isaiah to Israel. Conquered and carried into exile, they would have lost everything that was home for them. Do not surrender to despair, not ever, God says to them. My heart is an overflowing banquet of grace and life, blessing and peace, even amid your struggle and disappointment. I will bring you home, and you will know me.

We need to hear this. I turned off the news this morning. There was too much war and conflict, too much hurt and need, too many strident voices. There seemed no center to life, no truth, just competing claims and unsolvable problems. Pushing away the nose, I sought the voice of Love, who calls us home to eat the bread of welcome and drink the wine of peace. That voice is always there, deep within, calling: Come home. My heart is eager to welcome and fill you... once again.

As we continue through these days of Lent and look forward to Easter and the Eastertide, may you seek the voice of Love that continuously calls, without ceasing, for you, for me, for all humankind to step into the presence of God and experience Life Renewed!

Peace be with you!

Vicar Philip J. Supeck



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roger L. Kurtz

Music for Holy Week & Easter Sunday

As we commemorate the final days of Christ's earthly life and celebrate his resurrection, the music in our liturgies for Holy Week and Easter Sunday will convey the drama and emotion associated with this most important week of the church year. Our Jerusalem Choir will provide musical leadership on Palm/Passion Sunday (April 13) and for our celebration of The Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday (April 20). Anthems will include "And All the World Was Silent" by Douglas E. Wagner (April 13) and "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!" by Hal H. Hopson (April 20). Jeff Schreiber, our in-house percussionist, will provide timpani accompaniment for many of our hymns on both Sundays. The following pieces arranged for organ and timpani will serve as preludes: "Rigaudon" by André Campra (April 13) and "Awake, Thou Wintry Earth" by Johann Sebastian Bach (April 20). Johann Pachelbel's setting of "Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless" – a chorale found on page 357 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* – will be the postlude on Palm/Passion Sunday, and Charles-Marie Widor's triumphant "Toccata" from *Symphony No. 5* will conclude our Easter Sunday worship. Throughout the Easter season, we will use *ELW Setting 3* for our service music, a setting that originally appeared as the first setting of service music in the 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All of the music for that particular setting, including the well-known and beloved "This Is the Feast of Victory for Our God," was composed by Richard Hillert (1923-2010), who served as Professor of Music at Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois, from 1959 to 1993. Our Good Friday liturgy on April 18th will closely follow the order of service outlined in our hymnal and will include two hymns sung by the congregation. In keeping with the solemnity of the day, we will gather and depart in silence.

Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble to Perform on Sunday, May 4

Invite your family and friends to attend the final event of our 2024/2025 Music at Jerusalem Concert Series, which will showcase the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble performing a concert in our nave on Sunday, May 4th at 3:00 p.m. Audio and video recordings of the group can be heard/seen at their website: phillybells.org. Established in 2003, the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble is comprised of auditioned, advanced-level handbell ringers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Its repertoire spans original compositions, transcriptions of classical literature, and arrangements from a wide array of musical genres. Under the direction of Ron Bellamy, the ensemble currently plays on six and one-half octaves of Schulmerich bells. In addition, the group plays three and one-half octaves of Whitechapel handbells, two octaves of Schulmerich Silver Melody Bells, five octaves of MelodyChime® chimes, and the lower sixth and seventh octaves of Malmark Choirchime® chimes. A large number of percussion instruments round out their artistic presentation. Director Ron Bellamy is no stranger to Jerusalem Church, having performed in our concert series as a solo handbell ringer in 2017, and as part of the handbell duo "Bell a deux" in 2010. A free-will offering will be received during the intermission to help defray expenses and support our ongoing Music at Jerusalem series.

April Worship Leaders

	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister/Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Zoom Monitor
April 6	Emma Miller	J.D. Wissler	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
April 13	Jean Slaymaker	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
April 20		Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
April 27	Brenda Fetter	Dave Carson	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		

HOME COMMUNION MEMBERS

Doris Witwer

Viva Senior Living
150 Kempton Ave., Room 252
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-901-6026
Birthday: February 20

SHARED MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, is next Shared Ministry Committee meeting, 6:00 p.m. at JELC.

LENTEN LEARNING SESSIONS - WEDNESDAYS

April 2, 2025 - JELC - 6:00 PM
April 9, 2025 - BULC - 12:00 PM
April 16, 2025 - JELC - 6:00 PM

VICAR PHILIP'S AVAILABILITY AT JELC

Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4:30pm.
Call him at 717-725-3429 on those dates if you would like to schedule an appointment with him.

SPEAKERS FOR LENT WEDNESDAYS AT JERUSALEM

April 2nd- Michelle Coron LWCC
April 16th- Pastor Glenn Beard Lutheran Disaster Relief

PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

1. Scott Barr replaced battery in emergency light by first floor elevator. All emergency lights are all functioning. Thank you Scott.
2. Brad Clubb has graded the left side of the church grassy area, replaced the broken water drainage pipe, applied black landscape cloth and new brown stones. It looks great! Thank you Brad.
3. Janet Craley, Brenda Fetter and Larrie Miller are reorganizing all of the church's records. All outdated records will eventually be shredded.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE TRIP

From April 6th to April 12th, a group from the Lower Susquehanna Synod Lutheran Disaster Response Team, led by Pastor Glenn Beard, will be traveling to Arden, North Carolina to assist in hurricane relief efforts from Hurricane Helene. Among this group will be Tom, Beth and Kelly Smith and Brad, Jill and Grant Clubb. We are asking for prayers for our team as we make this trip and serve our neighbors in North Carolina. Prayers are the most important way you can support us. Gifts of financial support can be made in the form of donations to "LDR Carolinas" or gift cards to Lowe's, Walmart or Home Depot. Thank you for your support!

April Food Bank Suggestions:

- baked beans
- juice for children
- canned meats (chicken, spam, tuna, etc.)



Items can be placed in the box near the elevator on the first floor - thank you!

April, 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 April Fool's Day	2 Lenten Soup & Study 6pm at JELC	3 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	4	5 Men's Bible Study 9am St. Paul's Lutheran Lititz
6 Fifth Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion Picnic Meeting following worship service	7	8 Shared Ministry Committee Meeting 6pm at JELC	9 Lenten Soup & Study 12pm at BULC	10 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion 	14	15 May Newsletter Deadline Tax Day	16 Lenten Soup & Study 6pm at JELC Choir Rehearsal 7pm	17 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm at BULC	18 Good Friday Service 7pm at JELC	19
20 Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Day 10:30 am Holy Communion 	21 Council Meeting 7pm	22 Earth Day 	23	24 Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	25	26 Lutheran Woman's Lunch Exchange 10am to 1pm at BULC
27 Second Sunday in Easter Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30am Holy Communion	28	29	30			



PRAYER CONCERNS

Let us pray for: Chrystine and Andy Anderson, Leslie Carson, Cheyenne Colon, Jean Ehrhart, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Andrea Reynolds, Joe Stoyanovich, Toby Sweigart, and Doris Witwer. Be with military personnel, first responders, healthcare workers, the people of Ukraine, the people of Israel & Palestine, those affected by recent hurricanes and wildfires.

Please call or email Vicar Philip Supeck if you would like a name added or removed from our prayer list.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4– Rodney Rhoads
4-Zachary Fetter
5-Kenneth Craley
8-Deb Carson
12– Joan Dull
16-Audrey Adams
19-Dave Carson
27-Beth Trachte
28-Laura Bowman

2024 ANNUAL REPORT
Please correct Butch Black's
Address to 303 North Oak
Street.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

1-Brian Burkholder—1951
1-Melvin Ravegum-1956
2-Chrystine Anderson—1934
3-Spencer Ehrhart-2010
10-Kathy Schreiber –1961
13-Joyce Burkholder—1952
17-Leslie Miller-1955
20-Gregory Sammet-1952
21-Michael Lee Frantz-1963
26-Timothy Sweigart –1970
28-Beth Trachte –1965
30-Zachary Frantz
30-Nicole E. Nafe-2000

April 6
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Year C
First Reading
Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm
Psalm 126
Second Reading
Philippians 3:4b-14
Gospel
John 12:1-8

APRIL 2025 READINGS



April 20
Resurrection of Our Lord
Year C
First Reading
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Second Reading
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Gospel
Luke 24:1-12

April 13
Palm Sunday
Year C
First Reading
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm
Psalm 31:9-16
Second Reading
Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel
Luke 22:14 - 23:56

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE

During the week of April 6, Zachary Fetter will be in the church office on Tuesday and Wednesday due to a meeting regarding churchwide assembly on Thursday, April 10. If there are any emergencies on Thursday, please contact Vicar Philip.

LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINE IS BACK

The new Living Lutheran Magazines have arrived and they are located in the narthex. Please help yourself to one.

April 27
Second Sunday of Easter
Year C
First Reading
Acts 5:27-32
Psalm
Psalm 118:14-29
Second Reading
Revelation 1:4-8
Gospel
John 20:19-31

SEAFARER'S INTERNATIONAL HOUSE:

We will again be compiling "Christmas at Sea" satchels to support the seafarers who travel on container ships to deliver important products to our country. SIH was founded by the Lutheran Church and continues to be supported the ELCA. We are collecting the following items throughout the month of April:

Sweatshirts, hooded or unhooded(M-L-XL)

T shirts(M-L-XL)

Socks- thermal or gym

Cans/jars of nuts

Thank you for your support!



FUNDRAISER! CITY GATE NIGHT AT THE STORMERS

Join us on Friday, May 2, 6:45 pm as we move our First Friday event to Penn Medicine Park (formerly Clipper Stadium). Discounted tickets cost \$12 and for each ticket purchased City Gate will receive \$4.00. We will be joining with Brickerville members that day as a group. If anyone is interested please sign up by April 6th on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Money for the tickets can be given to June Kupstas or Jackie Fetter that night of the game. Any questions please see Zachary Fetter.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

Recent wildfires have devastated parts of southern California. In an effort to reach out to our neighbors, we will be collecting money throughout the Easter season. Red envelopes will be available for donations; also, Easter envelope contributions will go toward this effort. Our contribution will be made through Lutheran World Relief. Thank you for your help to this ongoing recovery effort!

CHURCH PICNIC MEETING

Church Picnic scheduled for June 1, 2025. There will be an organization meeting Sunday, April 6, 2025 following worship service in Council Room.

EASTER CARD SHOWER

Service Committee is asking that you send "Easter" cards to our knowledgeable nonagenarian congregants (people who have achieved 90 years or older of life.) These people would be Audrey Adams, Lois Mearig, Ivan Ravegum and Doris Witwer. You will find their correct addresses in our annual report. God bless you!

PRIMARY ELECTION

There will be a Municipal Primary held on Tuesday, May 20th. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex for people to sit with Scott.

BRICKERVILLE EVENTS

"THE GIFT OF YEARS"

Woman's Bible Study held on the 3rd Monday each month thru June. Starts 10am at BULC.

AT THE TABLE - FAMILY FELLOWSHIP NIGHTS

BULC will be hosting *At the Table*, a series of Family Fellowship nights on Wednesdays July 9 through August 6, 2025. A meal will be served at 6:00 PM followed by a time of small group activities including story time, games, and crafts. Save the date and Invite your family and friends, young and old, to join us as we try something new *At the Table*!

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION FOR OUR NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY

Our scheduling process has begun for your photography session for our new shared photo directory with Brickerville. Sign up begins Sunday, March 30, 2025, in the Narthex both before and after the church service, and will continue for the next two Sundays (April 6, 2025 & April 13, 2025). Please see Jean Slaymaker to schedule an appointment that ensures you get a time slot that works best for you. Pictures will be taken Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at Brickerville United Lutheran Church from 2-8:30 p.m. Please plan to arrive at Brickerville 10 minutes before your time slot. The photography and the viewing of your poses will take approximately 35-40 minutes. The Vendor, Universal Church Directories, provides a complete professional studio. You'll enjoy a variety of poses, portrait sizes, finish/framing options and you will have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends. For participating you will receive a complimentary 8 X 10 photo. For those with local families, you may also decide to do a second time slot for photography of your larger family (not for the directory). Also, you have the option to submit your own photo for the directory at a cost of \$15.00, and the photo can be no larger than 4 x 7.

VICAR'S TIME AWAY

Vicar Supeck will be out of the office and unavailable during the following times. To request Pastoral Care during these times, please call the church office.

Vacation - Monday, April 21, through Saturday, April 26, 2025

Vacation - Monday, June 9, through Sunday, June 15, 2025

Seminary Week - Monday, June 23, 2025, through Sunday, June 29, 2025

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE APRIL

We will be studying a faith practice called Living Our Baptism...Five gifts of Discipleship. The scripture will be on the book of Philippians. Forum will be on the following Sundays: 4/6, 4/13, 4/27. All are welcome to join us at 9am. Also, feel free to bring your own bible. As always there will be bibles available at the church.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We currently need an Assisting Minister, Altar Guild, Acolyte and Ushers for the Good Friday Service coming up on Friday, April 18. Please sign up on the bulletin board or let Zachary Fetter know if you would like to help in this way.

Picture of Chrystine Anderson, Vicar Philip and Andy Anderson. This was taken during Brickerville's Leprechaun Lunch on St. Patrick's Day.



Awaken Spring:
Your invitation to Lutheran
Woman's Lunch Exchange

Saturday, April 26
10 am - 1 pm

Guest Speaker:	LuAnn Wise
Title of Program:	"Enjoying This Journey Called Life" (A drama and teaching)
Location:	Brickerville United Lutheran Church 340 E. 28th Division Hwy, (Route 322) Lititz (Brickerville)

We invite all women and guests to hear this inspirational speaker
lunch will follow:

Bring a non-perishable food item for Lititz Warwick Food Bank welcome

Please RSVP by 04/13/25 by calling:
717.627.2202

JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2025

“As followers of Jesus Christ we serve our neighbors locally and globally”

Present: Vicar Philip Supeck, Brad Clubb, Beth Smith, Scott Barr, Ken Craley, JD Wissler, Patti Stripling, Jeanine Schreiber, Jill Clubb, Floss Morgan, Dave Carson

Guest: Larrie Miller

Devotions: Led by Vicar Philip

Recognitions:

1. Thank you to Brad Clubb, Kathy Schreiber and Brenda Fetter for ice removal during a recent storm
2. Thank you to those who made Valentines to be sent to our military and to residents of nursing homes
3. Thank you to those who helped with the meal following Norma Rhoad's funeral: Joyce Burkholder, Jean Slaymaker, Brenda Fetter, Floss Morgan, Larrie and Emma Miller, Ken Craley and Zach Fetter
4. Thank you to Vicar Philip, Roger Kurtz and Zach Fetter for their preparation and participation in the Rhoads funeral
5. Thank you sent to the Rhoads family for the donation of extra food to our congregation from the funeral luncheon

Reports:

Secretary: The January 20, 2025 Secretary's Report was distributed and discussed. Brad Clubb made a motion to accept the minutes; Patti Stripling seconded the motion; the motion was accepted.

Treasurer: The January 31, 2025 Treasurer's Report was distributed and discussed. There was a \$2000 deficit in January due to tree trimming and decreased offering due to no church one Sunday. Encouraging members to use Simply Giving was suggested to assist with offerings when there is no church. Dave Carson agreed to have the Stewardship Committee do a temple talk on Simply Giving. It was determined from a PNC interpretation that the interest from the Carpenter Fund can be used for building and grounds maintenance. Brad Clubb made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit; Jeanine Schreiber seconded the motion; the motion was accepted.

Vicar: The January 2025 Vicar's Report was distributed and discussed. Vicar Philip reported that he will be beginning his Clinical Pastoral Education rotation in the fall. He has applied to Penn Medicine.

Sunday School: no report

Worship and Music: Lenten Soup and Study will take place on Wednesdays during Lent. BULC will host on 3/12, 3/26 and 4/9 at 12:00 noon; JELC will host on 3/19, 4/2, and 4/16 at 6:00pm

Cemetery: payments are expected for two funerals

Finance: Larrie Miller would like to see some new members join the Finance Committee. Larrie also reported an increase in the cost of the Vicar's benefits- approx \$100/month. The Audit Committee would like written instructions on how to conduct the audit and suggests that an audit be performed every 3 months. Vicar Philip stated that there are audit instructions on the Synod website

Property: the fire extinguishers have been serviced. Scott Barr changed bulbs in the emergency lights.

Service: 53 Valentines were made: 30 for nursing home residents, 23 to military, 6 for our members. Quilt making for LWR will take place on March 16 and 17th. Discussed how to assist California Wildfire victims- see new business

Stewardship: a Simply Giving temple talk will be planned

Mutual Ministry: no report

Shared Ministry: Four shared services are being planned between BULC and JELC: 1st Sunday in June - Polka Mass and picnic at JELC; 2nd Sunday in July- BULC; 2rd Sunday in August- JELC; 2nd Sunday in September- BULC. All services will start at 10:00 am. Photo Directory pictures are planned for May 5th from 2:30-8:00. Vicar Philip will be assisting at Camp Kirkenwald for 2 weeks this summer, but he will preside on the corresponding Sundays. A joint lunch at Nona Rosa is being planned for March- date TBD.

Old Business:

1. Update on assistance to fire victim and rental assistance request: \$500 was donated to the Benevolent Fund at Ephrata Bible Church- this is the fire victim's church, and all money in this fund will be used to clear the fire debris from the site of the fire. Also, a bag with some treats, small gifts and a Sheetz gift card were given to the victim. Vicar Philip received a request for rental assistance from a community member. This community member has been helped by JELC previously through the LWCC Christmas basket program. \$600 was paid to this person's landlord from the Pastor's discretionary fund.
2. Church Committee list- has been updated. Committee chairperson phone numbers were added and this list will be sent to BULC.
3. Constitution and Bylaws: all committees have been asked to write bylaws for their committee. Vicar Philip has provided a copy of BULC's bylaws for reference. A congregational meeting to approve the revised Constitution along with Bylaws will be scheduled later this year.

New Business:

1. Annual Report: reporting of active/inactive members. These lists need to be maintained to determine quorums for congregational meetings but will likely not be listed this way in future annual reports.
2. Inclement weather policy. Discussion took place regarding the timing of the decision to cancel church. It was decided that 6:00pm on Saturday night is too early. Council's recommendation is that the decision be made later Saturday night or Sunday morning.
3. Assistance to California wildfire victims: the Service Committee proposed that JELC make a donation to the California wildfire victims through LWR. Donations will be collected through Easter Sunday by red envelopes and Easter envelopes. A motion to donate \$1500 was made by Ken Craley; Brad Clubb seconded the motion; the motion was accepted. The JELC mission fund will be used to supplement the amount between church member donations and \$1500 pledged.

Reminder Dates:

Quilting for LWR: 3/16 following church; 3/17 1:00pm

Lent Soup and Study: BULC: 3/12, 3/26, 4/9 12:00pm; JELC 3/19, 4/2, 4/16 6:00pm

Announcements/Correspondence: Thank you notes were received from a recipient of a LWCC Christmas basket, Faith Friendship Ministry, Warwick HUB, Lititz Warwick Community Chest and ELCA Good Gifts

Next Meeting: March 17, 2025. 7:00pm

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brad Clubb; Dave Carson seconded the motion; the motion was accepted

Respectfully Submitted

Jill Clubb, Council Secretary

Jerusalem Evangelical
Lutheran Church
36 Church Street
Lititz, PA 17543



April, 2025



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
36 Church Street, Lititz (Rothsville), Pennsylvania 17543

717.626.8972 | www.jerusaluth.org | jelc@ptd.net

Vicar's email: jlcpastr@ptd.net

Vicar Philip's Availability:

Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4:30pm. Call him at 717-725-3429 on those dates if you would like to schedule an appointment with him.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday 10am to 5pm and Thursday 10am to 6pm

Philip J. Supeck, *Vicar*

Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music*

Beth Smith, *Treasurer*

Zachary Fetter, *Office Administrator*

Joan C. Dull, *Sexton*

Congregation, *Ministers*