

VICAR'S PONDERABLES – MARCH, 2025

A Note from the Vicar

Living and learning together as Lutherans requires us to occasionally remember what it is we are called to do as members of God's church within the global society. In its social statement, *Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective*, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America believes,

As a reconciling and healing presence, this church is called to minister to human need with compassion and imagination. It strives to pioneer new ways of addressing emerging social problems and environmental degradation. This church has a responsibility to mediate conflict and to advocate just and peaceful resolutions to the world's divisions. It should support institutions and policies that serve the common good and work with and learn from others in caring for and changing global society.^A

We are called to minister to human need with compassion and imagination. The congregations at Brickerville United and Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran churches are full of compassion. This is evident in the generous giving of our time, our talents, and our treasures as we care for one another and the environment. However, I sometimes pause to consider how much imagination we are putting to use as we work in these ways. How are we striving to be pioneers in our response to emerging social and environmental concerns? Pioneers are people who develop and are the first to use or apply a new method, area of knowledge, or activity.^B

Pioneering through imagination requires us to take a step in faith, to explore and experiment with new ideas and methods. It requires us to evaluate what we know and have experienced for relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency. We look back as a source of inspiration as we imagine what lays ahead. God created all things. We cannot fully know what he has in store for us, but we must remain faithful to his call as he inspires our imaginations to become pioneers in care of all his creations. "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible." ^C

As the days of winter expire and we prepare to welcome spring, may each of us be renewed in our commitment *to minister to human need with compassion and imagination*.

As love and support are given you, you in turn must render love and support to Christ in his needy ones. You must feel with sorrow all the dishonors done to Christ in his holy Word, all the misery of Christendom, all the unjust suffering of the innocent, with which the world is everywhere filled to overflowing. You must fight, work, pray, and—if you cannot do more, have heartfelt sympathy.^D

Faith, love, grace, mercy, and peace be with you Pioneers! Vicar Philip



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roger L. Kurtz

As we begin our observance of Lent on Ash Wednesday (March 5th), Claudia Frances Hernaman's hymn, "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days," provides a perfect text for our private devotions during this 40day season of fasting, penitence, and prayer. A paraphrase of her hymn appears on page 319 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. The original text (shown below) was first published in 1873 as part of a collection of hymns for children. By the mid-20th century, "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" was a standard Lenten hymn in most hymnals throughout the United States. The words are based on the account of the temptation of Jesus found in three Gospels (Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, and Luke 4:1-13), and the classic themes of Lent are presented in the hymn's five stanzas: fasting and prayer (stanza 1); struggle with Satan and sin (stanza 2); dying to self, meditation on scripture (stanza 3); penitence (stanza 4); and looking toward the joy of Easter (stanza 5).

Born in Surrey, England in 1838, Hernaman was the daughter and wife of Church of England priests. While we know little about her life, she must have been well educated since she wrote hymns in English and also translated Latin and German texts. Once married, Hernaman found her calling in the religious education of children. She wrote children's Christmas carols, Sunday School hymns, a children's hymn book, and translations primarily intended for the young. Altogether, Hernaman wrote or translated about 150 hymns. She died in Brussels, Belgium in 1898.

Lord, who throughout these forty days For us didst fast and pray, Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, And close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend, And didst the vict'ry win, O give us strength in thee to fight, In thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, So teach us, gracious Lord, To die to self, and chiefly live By thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, And through thy Passiontide, Yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life Of suff'ring overpast, An Easter of unending joy We may attain at last!

March Worship Leaders

	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister/Lector	Ushers	Acolyte	Zoom Monitor
March 2	Emma Miller	Dave Carson	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.	Mike Fetter	
March 9	Jean Slaymaker	J.D. Wissler	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
March 16		Jill Clubb	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
March 23	Emma Miller	Zachary Fetter	Andy Anderson, Claude Grube, Charles Sweigart Jr.		
March 30		Brenda Fetter	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*

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.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

1. All Fire Extinguishers have been refilled and inspected.

2. Thank you to Flyway Excavating and members who help with snow and ice removal.

Adult Forum Schedule March

We are using the Augsburg Fortress Adult Bible Studies. Everyone is welcome to join at 9 am.

March 2 - Embrace Wisdom

March 9 - Run from Evil

March 16 - Watch What You Say

March 23 - Care for the Poor

March 30 - Will read and discuss Luke 13:1-9

THANK YOU

A special thanks to the Rhoad's and Votano families for giving us the food left over from the funeral luncheon. Thank you to all who helped with the service. Thank you to all who help to set-up and clean-up after the luncheon.

March Food Bank Suggestions:

- canned fruit
- condensed soups—cream of mushroom, cream of chicken, and tomato
- instant mashed potatoes

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



March, 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		SPARST PAY OF	Haper St. Pablicks Don	Ash Wednesday — Lour Region		1 Men's Bible Study 9am BULC					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
Transfiguration of Our Lord Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion			Ash Wednes- day Service with BULC 7pm at JELC	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm		Cabin Fever Gathering 9:30am to 3pm Mt. Zi- on Lutheran Church Lewisberry					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15					
First Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion Daylight Saving Time Spring forward.			Lenten Soup & Study 12pm at BULC	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm		April Newsletter Deadline					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22					
Second Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30 am Holy Communion Quilting after worship with pizza lunch	Council Meeting 7pm St. Patrick's Day		Lenten Soup & Study 6pm at JELC	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm First Day of Spring							
23	24	25	26	27	28						
Third Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30am Holy Communion Shared Luncheon with BULC 12:30pm at Nona Rosa Akron		Special Election	Lenten Soup & Study 12pm at BULC	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm							
30 Fourth Sunday in Lent Adult Forum 9:00 am 10:30am Holy Communion	31										

PRAYER CONCERNS

Let us pray for: Chrystine and Andy Anderson, Leslie Carson, Cheyenne Colon, Jean Ehrhart, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Andrea Reynolds, the family of Norma Rhoads, Joe Stoyanovich, Toby Sweigart, and Doris Witwer. Be with military personnel, first responders, healthcare workers, the people of Ukraine, the people of Turkey, the people of Syria, 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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Joel Mearig
- 6 Charles Sweigart
- 9 Shelby Hoover
- 9 Roger Kurtz
- 12- Kayla Dewitt
- 15 Chase Clubb16 Owen Denight10 Steve Corner

14 - Sarah Schreiber

- 19 Steve Carson
- 24 Andrew Sweigart
- 26 Kathleen Schreiber

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jean & Daryl Slaymaker 3/4/72 Dean & Leslie Carson 3/24/84 Harry & Alicia Scheid 3/31/79



LENTEN LEARNING SESSIONS - WEDNESDAYS March 12, 2025 - BULC - 12:00 PM March 19, 2025 - JELC - 6:00 PM March 26, 2025 - BULC - 12:00 PM April 2, 2025 - JELC - 6:00 PM April 9, 2025 - BULC - 12:00 PM April 16, 2025 - JELC - 6:00 PM



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

Barb Sammet 3/5/61 Ray Bowman 3/12/67 Larrie Miller 3/13/58 Lori Kemler 3/18/73 Kelly Smith 3/24/91 Ivan Ravegum 3/30/80



MARCH 2025 READINGS



March 30 **Fourth Sunday in Lent Year C** First Reading Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm Psalm 32 Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 2 **Transfiguration of Our Lord Year C** First Reading Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm Psalm 99 Second Reading 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 Gospel Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a] March 9 **First Sunday in Lent Year C** First Reading Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Second Reading Romans 10:8b-13 Gospel Luke 4:1-13

- March 16 Second Sunday in Lent Year C First Reading Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm Psalm 27 Second Reading Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 Gospel Luke 13:31-35
- March 23 **Third Sunday in Lent Year C** First Reading Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm Psalm 63:1-8 Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Gospel Luke 13:1-9

QUILTING AT JELC

JOIN US for Quilting for Lutheran World Relief! We will be making quilts for LWR on Sunday March 16th after church (pizza will be provided!) and on Monday March 17 at 1:00. No sewing experience is required- there are jobs for all and OTJT is provided!

Come be a part of making these beautiful quilts to keep our global neighbors warm!

SHARED LUNCHEON WITH BULC

Shared Luncheon (BULC & (JELC) 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 23, 2025, at Nona Rosa in Akron, PA. Sign up sheet in the Narthex, deadline for sign up is March 16.

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!

LIFE RENEWED. LENTEN LEARNING SESSIONS

Copies of the book, *Life Renewed*, are available in the Narthex for pick up. This book will be used as the basis for our Lenten Learning Sessions being held on Wednesdays during the Lenten Season. Join us as we hear from representatives of the organizations that we support financially and physically throughout the year. If you are unable to attend you are welcome to pick up a copy of *Life Renewed* and use it at home as part of your personal Lenten devotions.

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, June 1, 2025 - Polka Mass - 10:00 AM - JELC Sunday, July 13, 2025 - Combined Service - 10:00 AM - BULC Sunday, August 10, 2025 - Combined Service - 10:00 AM - JELC Sunday, September 7, 2025 - God's Work Our Hands Service - 10:00 AM - BULC

All services will be followed by a Fellowship Luncheon. Please see weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters for more details on these events.

BRICKERVILLE EVENTS

DAY OF QUILITING AT BULC

March 15 9-2 lunch provided Community Day of Quilting for LWR

LEPRECHAUN LUNCH AT BULC

Monday, March 17 at noon. Brickerville will be having a Leprechaun Lunch, (aka potato bar); potato reservation required. See sign up sheet on bulletin board in narthex. Deadline to order is March 9th.

"THE GIFT OF YEARS"

Woman's Bible Study held on the 3rd Monday each month thru June 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*!

LITITZ DAY OF PRAYER

Friday March 7, 2025 7pm at Lititz United Methodist Church. Music by Lititz Moravian Trombone Choir at 6:30pm. See flyer on page 8.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 8 before you go to sleep.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL

If inclement weather is in forecast, the respective council presidents of both congregations will discuss on Saturday and make a determination if the Sunday worship service should be cancelled and do this by 9:30pm Saturday evening. A group text message and email will be sent by Zachary Fetter. Phone calls will be made to members who only have land lines.

Please call or text Zach at 717-572-5799 prior to venturing out if you are unsure.

SPECIAL ELECTION

There will be a special election held on Tuesday, March 25th. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for people to sit with Scott.

VICAR PHILIP'S SCHEDULE

Vicar Philip continues to complete course work for the Christian Ethics class through April 1, 2025. His next set of Seminary classes will be held June 22, 2025 through June 29, 2025. This intensive week will include studies in Biblical Foundations for Evangelism, Lutheran Heritage, and Lutheran Leadership for Mission.

Vicar Philip will be supporting the ministry of the Lutheran Camping Corporation at Camp Kirchenwald June 2, 2025 through June 5, 2025 and August 11, 2025 through August 15, 2025. He will still be available for pastoral care during these times. Please feel free to contact him directly at 717.725.3429 when needed.

Vicar Philip will be on vacation beginning the afternoon of June 8, 2025 through Sunday, June 15, 2025. Please contact the church office if pastoral care is needed during this time.

NORTH LANCASTER CONFERENCE MEETING

The next North Lancaster Conference meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2025 at 3:00 PM at Friedens Lutheran Church in Myerstown, PA. Elected representatives from each congregation will attend this meeting to lift up names to be considered for Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod. If there is anyone in the congregation who has discerned a name, please share that name with the elected representative of the congregation so that name can be included in the selection process.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The next Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly is being held Thursday, June 5, 2025 through Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Saint Matthew Lutheran Church in York, PA. The election of a Bishop will take place during this assembly. Please see Vicar Philip or your elected representatives with any questions concerning this process.

LITITZ DAY OF PRAYER DAY OF PRAYER Friday March 7, 2025 at 7pm music by Lititz Moravian Trombone Choir at 6:30 pm Lititz United Methodist Church 201 E Market Street, Lititz

Celebrating 60 years of Warwick Released Time Featured Performance

"If God Should Speak"

Special Music by Saint James Folk Group

ALL ARE WELCOME!

A free-will offering will be taken in support of the Warwick Released Time Program

Presented by the Warwick Association of Church Women

Books of the New Testament

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the ALL CAP words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



E XNM Y м ARKSNAMORL м R L 0 0 х F D w F в C L E т т E R 0 A G R н s т 3 I 5 т z U 0 N F D ν Е s s s 1 s 5 L N 5 A х S х т G 0 s 0 G S D XM N 0 т Q н n Ł s н 0 т 7 т 0 F F u C N A s G 0 P 2 п s 7 т R E C F s J. A G т Y H z E G IAKX E D s o TW PSOGSL н т XL Е R ы

GOSPEL According to MATTHEW Gospel According to MARK Gospel According to LUKE Gospel According to JOHN ACTS of the APOSTLES LETTER of PAUL to the ROMANS Letters of Paul to the CORINTHIANS (2) Letter of Paul to the GALATIANS Letter of Paul to the EPHESIANS Letter of Paul to the PHILIPPIANS Letter of Paul to the COLOSSIANS Letters of Paul to the THESSALONIANS (2) Letters of Paul to TIMOTHY (2) Letter of Paul to TITUS Letter of Paul to PHILEMON Letter of Paul to PHILEMON Letter of JAMES Letters of PETER (2) Letters of JOHN (3) Letter of JUDE REVELATION to John

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JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 20, 2025

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

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

Guest: Larrie Miller

Devotions: Led by Vicar Philip

Recognitions:

- 1. Thank you to those who went Christmas caroling: Joyce Burkholder, Cheri Kurtz, Roger Kurtz, Zach Fetter, Brenda Fetter
- 2. Thank you to Scott Barr for greasing the organ
- 3. Thank you to Jill Clubb for providing the agenda for tonight's meeting
- 4. Thank you to Brad Clubb for removing the pallets from Jerusalem's property
- 5. Thank you to Joyce and Brad Burkholder for removing an old safe from our building

Reports:

Secretary: The December 9, 2025 Secretary's Report was distributed and discussed. Dave Carson made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report, Brad Clubb seconded the motion, the motion was accepted.

Treasurer: 1. The December 31, 2024 Treasurer's Report was distributed and discussed. Beth Smith reported that the 2024 Budget was met. Discussion took place regarding establishing a separate account for the interest on the interest on the Carpenter Fund. This money would be used for any need of the church at the Council's discretion. Jeanine Schreiber made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit, Floss Morgan seconded the motion, the motion was accepted.

2. Offering envelopes: the "Building Fund" envelope will be changed to "Property Maintenance". We were able to order a lesser quantity of envelopes which should decrease the cost of the envelopes by 50%.

Vicar: The December 2024 Vicar's Report was distributed and discussed.

Committee Reports:

Sunday School: no report Worship and Music: no report Cemetery: no report Finance: see Treasurer's Report Memorial: no report

Property: the committee met in January with former committee chair Janet Craley briefing the committee on current projects and issues in the church building. Brenda Fetter will now be the contact person for any property issues. The Bradford pear trees have been trimmed; Joyce and Brad Burkholder have removed a broken safe from the building.

Service: next meeting 1/30/2025

Stewardship: no report

Mutual Ministry: the Mutual Ministry will be used for Jerusalem staff except the Vicar, as the Vicar is supported by the Shared Ministry Committee. Vicar Philip encouraged the Committee to meet with the staff several times per year.

Shared Ministry: A joint photo directory is being planned so that the members of JELC and BULC can better recognize each other. Universal Church Directories has been chosen to compile this directory with no cost to the congregations. Photo sessions will be completed this spring. Each member will receive a free directory and a 8x10 photo; each session will last 45 min- one hour.

Old Business:

1. Communication and information: the members of the congregation are asked to notify the Council President JD Wissler or Vicar Philip of anything that should be addressed by Council no later than one week prior to the Council meeting, which is the third Monday of each month. Any issue requiring a Council vote should also be brought to JD Wissler or Vicar Philip one week prior to the Council meeting. Council packets will be ready for Council members one week prior to Council meetings

2. Committees:

- a. The Council has recommended the following members for the Audit Committee: Jeff Schreiber, Jean Slaymaker and Brenda Fetter. Each member serves a three year term with one member being replaced each year. Dave Carson made a motion to accept Jeff Schreiber, Jean Slaymaker and Brenda Fetter to the Audit Committee, Brad Clubb seconded the motion, the motion was accepted.
- b. A Nominating Committee for 2025 will need to be selected and voted on at the Annual Meeting on February 16, 2025. The following members are willing to serve: Rene Amey, Mike Fetter, and Jean Slaymaker. A vote will take place on February 16, 2025.
- 3. Constitution/Bylaws: Synod returned our draft with recommended edits that were required to meet the ELCA standards. Vicar Philip made the required edits and will resubmit to Synod with additional changes to the required number of Council members and a change to the quorum requirement for congregational meetings. Once the Consitution is approved, the next step is for each Committee to write Bylaws to govern each respective Committee. Currently, the only Committees that have Bylaws are the Audit and Nominating committees.

New Business:

1. Jeanine Schreiber suggested that we assist the victim of the fire at Earl Lane which is in the trailer park across from the church. Jill Clubb will reach out to the Warwick HUB to see if we can assist through their program.

Reminder Dates:

2/2/2025: Worship to begin at 10:45 to allow Vicar Philip to attend BULC's Congregational Meeting 2/16/2025: Congregational Meeting following Worship

Announcements: Thank you notes were received from the Warwick HUB for the contribution to the Newport Commons fire victims and from Seafarer's International for the Christmas satchels and for hats/scarves for the satchels

Next Meeting: 2/17/2025 at 7:00pm

Adjournment: Brad Clubb made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jeanine Schreiber seconded the motion; the motion was accepted.

Respectfully Submitted Jill Clubb, Council Secretary

CHURCH OFFICE REQUEST

Please call the church office at 717-626-8972 or Vicar Philip Supeck's phone number 717-725-3429 when:

- You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital (or have a relative call for you).

- You are confined to your home for an extended period of time because of illness or accident.
- You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home.
- There is a change in your family status (birth, death, marriage, or divorce).

-You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school. Important for keeping data base current.

Jerusalem Evangelical 36 Church Street 17543



March, 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