

HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.churchonthehilltop.org

LINGLESTOWN, PA

MAY 2018

Our Sincere Thanks

To the many persons who assisted with worship during Lent, Holy Week and Easter, from our choirs (Handbell, Vocal and Tone Chimes), to acolytes; from altar helpers to readers; from Assisting Ministers to ushers and greeters, and on and on. We are truly blessed with so many persons who have made worship ministry a part of their personal ministry. A special word of thanks is due our Director of Music, Sue Daniels, for her dedication and service. And, to Carl Elser, Herb Johns and the rest of our "kitchen crew" for the delicious Lenten soup suppers. Many, many thanks to all!

Sunday Church School Year-End Get Together May 20 - 9:30AM

Our annual SCS Year-End get together will be held in conjunction with our Fellowship Breakfast on May 20. Things will get underway at 9:30AM; attendance awards will be handed out and Bibles will be given to those moving on to Confirmation. (Please note: There will not be SCS that day following breakfast.)



You Got Talent?

There has been special music over the summer in the past and some is already in the planning stage for this summer. So, if you are willing and able to share your gifts with the congregation, please contact Sue Daniels.

Do You Know A Graduate?



If you know of any of our members who will be graduating this spring (high school or college), please notify the Church Office

continued... (email secretary@churchonthehilltop.org or phone 717-545-4211) so we can recognize them and offer them our congratulations in a future issue of our newsletter.

Harrisburg Conference Spring Assembly "News"

At the recent Harrisburg Conference Spring Assembly on April 19 attended by me and our lay voting member Cheryl Kerns, the upcoming Synod Assembly and the agenda for the Assembly were discussed. There has been a change in plans

Continued on page 4...

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, MAY 20

The Rite of Confirmation (which is an affirmation of Baptism) will be celebrated on Sunday, May 20, at our 10:30AM service.

NEW CONFIRMANDS

We are seeking out our youth who are entering 7th grade or above who are not in Confirmation Class now. We have an idea of who may be eligible but we don't want to miss anyone. If you have a child who is entering 7th grade or who is above 7th grade, we would like to hear from you so that we can plan for our confirmation class that starts in the fall.

On May 20, we will have our end of year acknowledgments for our Sunday School classes and will be giving out Bibles to our new confirmands. If you unable to make it that day, we would still like to hear from you so that we can have a Bible for all of our students. Please contact the church office or the pastor if you have a child eligible for

continued... confirmation, or if you have any questions. Thank you.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!!

Pasta Dinner
Fundraiser
May 11, 2018
6-8PM
Fellowship Hall

Tickets will be available Sunday mornings (4/22, 4/29 & 5/6) in the Great Room from our Youth (CLY -Christ Lutheran Youth). Adults \$6 and children (12 & under) \$3. All proceeds go to defray expenses for youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering/mission trip, in Houston, this June and towards future mission trips. Thank you!



Church
Clean-Up Day
May 12,
8AM - Noon

There are a number of exterior areas around our church which need to be spruced up. If you can give some time (and energy), we'll look to see you on Saturday, May 12, beginning at 8AM. If you cannot make it at 8AM, feel free to come a little later. And please, bring along your gloves, rakes, shovels, pruning shears, (and any other equipment you may have to help with our tasks) as we will be planting flowers and putting down mulch. The more the merrier! Together, we can make our church grounds attractive and welcoming. Thank you.



BETHANY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE -FOOD PANTRY-

We have received a request to assist with the garden at Bethany Church of the Nazarene again this year. Last year several of us helped to get the garden started and in shape for the growing season. The next work days are on Saturday, May 12 and May 19. Here is the information from Michael Sauers from Bethany, "On each of these Saturdays, I plan to work from 8-12, and everyone is welcome to come and go as they can. You and your congregation were such a blessing last year in getting things ready and any assistance again this year would be much appreciated."

If you want to help out, just show up on the scheduled days and times. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kerns.

Fellowship Breakfast Sunday, May 20

Our monthly Fellowship Breakfast will be served on Sunday, May 20, from 9:15 to 10:00AM.

We will be offering our usual delicious breakfast, with hot and cold foods, coffee, tea and juice all for a freewill offering.

Remember, half of the proceeds this month will be donated to the **Bethany Church of the Nazarene**. You have generously supported our quest in the past; we are counting on you.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

NOTE: If you would like to donate your time or a hot or cold breakfast item to support the Fellowship Team, please sign up in the Great Room. Thank you!

Where the hungry are fed as we have been fed by Christ.

I was checking out some ministries of our Synod on the Synod Web Site. The Synod theme is the title of this article. I often find myself thinking about people and especially children who are hungry. There are some reports that if a child goes to school with an empty stomach they are much more likely to be disruptive in school. They will lack the ability to concentrate on their work and will struggle to succeed in the classroom. Hunger initiatives are found throughout our Synod as well as the community. But I wanted to stop and lift up some of those initiatives that we support right here.

Continued...

Every month when we gather to enjoy a great breakfast we ask for a free will offering in which half of what we receive will go to a hunger initiative that we have designated to receive our offering. You have been very generous with your donations of either attending the breakfasts or donating to the offerings without attending the breakfasts throughout the designated month. We collect food items for the Ecumenical Food Pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church in Harrisburg and during Lent 23 boxes were collected and sent. I don't have the figures in front of me but our breakfasts have generated thousands of dollars over the years. We have assisted at the garden at Bethany Church of the Nazarene off of Linglestown Road. We have volunteered feeding the homeless thorough the Helping Hands Ministry. The Church and Community Committee has led us in donating to many ministries in our community and now have embarked on assisting Epiphany Lutheran on Colonial Road with the Family Promise program to help families who find themselves homeless and who are now working to find work and get back on their feet.

I hold this all up to say thank you for your continued support of our outreach ministries. But also to say that within these ministries there is plenty of room for your help. We all have been fed by Christ and he tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves. He tells us to tend his sheep just as Peter was told to tend his sheep. We are to feed the hungry just as our Lord did when he fed the 5,000 with a few fish and loaves of bread. You are invited or should I say you are commanded by Christ to feed your neighbors and that means all of us and not just a few. We are all to be involved in the life of the church. We have been blessed in many ways and in those blessings we are called to bless others. *How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?* (1 John 3:17)

Yours in Christ, Pastor Kerns

LUTHER'S BREAKFAST CLUB



We will return this month to meet again on Sunday, May 6, at 9:15AM, in Room 4, on the lower level of the education wing. We invite all of our post-confirmation youth and any returning college students to join in the class. They will be discussing current issues as they relate to the readings in church for that Sunday. So plan on joining the conversation on May 6 and bring a friend or two!!



AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com.

The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the Amazon-Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Every item available for purchase on www.amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

For more information about the AmazonSmile program, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about>

NOTE: Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Linglestown, has now registered with AmazonSmile! When you sign up for this program, select Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Linglestown, Pennsylvania, and then shop at <http://smile.amazon.com> the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases made on this website to the church. The funds will be sent quarterly. If you enjoy shopping online, then please, consider participating in this free program that will generate funds to support our church. Thank you!

AFTER-FIVE GROUP

The After Five Group will meet May 16 at 7PM in Fellowship Hall. We will be making greeting cards for our homebound members. Anyone interested in making cards is invited to join us for fun and fellowship.

...Continued from page 1 *Harrisburg Conference*

Spring Assembly "News"

for Thursday and Friday at the Assembly. The agenda has been switched for the two days because of a bylaw in the Synod constitution that the business of the Synod cannot be completed before June 1. So Thursday now becomes the day of edification and Friday as the day of business. Saturday is still the food packing event. Other news from the Conference Spring Assembly that was held here at Christ Lutheran was the election of a secretary of the Conference. Pastor Martha Boyd was reelected to another two year term. She is pastor at St. John in Hoernerstown.

Continued...

I was elected as the Dean last year at the Spring Assembly and continue in that role for another year. If you have any questions about what is happening in the Conference or the Synod, please contact me. Peace, Pastor Kerns

DAY OF FEEDING



Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA

Thirty-first Assembly

Eradicating Hunger One Relationship at a Time

May 31 - June 2, 2018

Messiah College, Grantham, PA

Parmer Hall in the High Center for

Worship and Performing Arts

Synod food packing event **Saturday, June 2** at Messiah College. We **need 10 volunteers** for the registered **10AM – 12Noon** shift. Please sign-up in the Great Room. As always, thank you for your support!

Your Church & Community Committee

A Word of Thanks!

- ◆ "A 'BIG THANK YOU' to all of you who supported our "Lenten Campaign" in support of the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Twenty-three boxes were filled and delivered to the pantry at the end of March."
- ◆ "Dear Christ Lutheran Church, Harv & I are so blessed to be in a congregation that is so loving, caring, and thoughtful. We thank our church family for the cards, thoughts and prayers. Always, Pat & Harvey Huth"
- ◆ "Dear Friends, on behalf of the Ecumenical Food Pantry, and those who benefit by your generosity, I would like to thank you for your generous contribution of \$500.00 we received in February. Sincerely, Jacqueline Young, Corresponding Secretary"
- ◆ "Dear Friends, thank you for your generous gift of \$261.50 to Bethesda Mission. Your partnership plays a vital role as we reach out to struggling men, women, and children in our community. Sincerely, Scott Dunwoody, Executive Director"
- ◆ "Thank you so much for your prayers and get well wishes following my hospitalizations in March and on-going recovery. Pastor Kerns' visits and calls were greatly appreciated as well. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a loving and supportive church family. Nancy DeSantis"

Continued on last page ...

Hilltop Herald
CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1214 Crosby Street
Linglestown, PA 17112
717-545-4211 / FAX 717-545-4212
www.churchonthehilltop.org
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Harrisburg, PA
Permit No. 1056

CLY Pasta Dinner Fundraiser
May 11, 6-8PM

Church Clean-Up Day
May 12, 8AM

Fellowship Breakfast &
SCS Year-End Get Together
May 20

Youth Happenings ...

- Christ Lutheran Youth (CLY) (Grades 7-12)*
- ◆ May 6 CLY with UEYG meeting, 6-8:30PM
 - ◆ May 11 Pasta Dinner Fundraiser, 6-8:00PM
 - ◆ May 20 Meeting, 6-8:30PM
- Upper Elementary Youth Group (UEYG) (grades 4-6)*
- ◆ May 6 UEYG with CLY meeting 6-8:30PM

CHURCH LIBRARY

New book titles are now available and ready to sign out and enjoy! Take a few minutes to see our newest additions on the library book truck in front of the library. Don't forget to sign the card. Bev Stickley

...Continued from page 4 A Word of Thanks

- ◆ "Dear Church Family, Merci, a special thanks to you from me. Thank you all for the snacks and wonderful messages this year. They were greatly appreciated! Love Megan Daubenspeck"
- ◆ "Dear Church Family, I am doing my last semester at Misericordia University from home. I am scheduled to graduate May 12. Thank you for all the care packages you have sent to me over the last four years, your prayers and your kindness. Love in Christ, Justin Matzoni"

Welcome New Members!

Michael, Teresa, & Victoria Gnall were received by Affirmation of Faith to the membership of our congregation on April 15. Please greet them and welcome them to the Lord's family!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Caroline (nee Albert) and Brian Gatto on the birth of their son, Miles Mitchell on March 23. The vital statistics? 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and 21 inches in length. His very proud grandparents are Ken & MaryAnn Albert.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Heather (nee Morgan) and Brock Ward on the birth of their daughter, Malia Lynn on April 10. The vital statistics? 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and 21 inches in length. Her very proud grandparents are Tina & Tim Morgan.



BAPTIZED



Olivia Louise Elser, daughter of Michael and Brooke Elser, was baptized April 22, in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Welcome to the Lord's family!